Circular Letter No 96/2026

My No. PGIM/EX/10/MD/Oph (26)
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
160, Professor Nandadasa Kodagoda Mw,
Colombo 07.
28th October 2026.

To: Deputy Director General/NHSL, Colombo,
Directors/MSS of Teaching/General Hospitals,
Provincial Regional Directors of Health Services,
Deans of Faculties of Medicine/Medical Sciences,
Universities of Peradeniya/Colombo/Jaffna/Ruhuna/Kelaniya,
Sri Jayewardenepura/Rajarata/Eastern/Sabaragamuwa/ Wayamba/KDU.

MD (OPHTHALMOLOGY) EXAMINATION – JANUARY 2027
(PROSPECTUS 2014)

1. The above examination will commence on **Thursday, 07th January 2027.**

2. Applications are invited by me from medical officers possessing the following requirements to sit the above examination.

a) Successful completion of the 2 years Registrar training programme.

b) Successful completion of Ophthalmic Basic Sciences examination.

c) Successful completion of MD (Ophthalmology) Optics & Refraction examination.

d) Satisfactory progress reports acceptable to the BOS.

e) Satisfactory Peer Team Ratings acceptable to the BOS.

f) A duly completed Pre MD training Portfolio which is accepted by the BOS.

g) Successful completion of Continuous Assessments.

h) Successful completion of Professionalism & Ethics in Medical Practice Strand conducted by the PGIM. (Certificate should be attached along with the application).

i) Attendance according to paragraph 10 (Leave) of the PGIM General Regulations and Guidelines for Trainees 2026.

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3. The examination consist of 3 sections as follows: -

   I. Theory – this section consists of 2 components
      i. MCQ Paper – 2 hours.
      ii. Structured Essay Questions – 3 hours.

   II. Clinicals in Ophthalmology - this section consists of 2 components
      i. Clinicals in Anterior Segment – 30 minutes.
      ii. Clinicals in Posterior Segment – 30 minutes.

   III. Clinical – Orals - this section consists of 3 components
      i. Clinicals in Neurology & Medicine in relation to Ophthalmology – 30 minutes.
      ii. Viva voce examination – Ophthalmic Medicine/Ophthalmic Surgery – 20 minutes.
      iii. This section consists of 2 sub components
         a. Viva voce examination – Basic Sciences in relation to Ophthalmology– 20 minutes.
         b. Viva voce examination – Ophthalmic Pathology.

   Candidates shall refer to the relevant prospectus for details and marking scheme of the examination.

4. When a trainee is unsuccessful at one of the prerequisites/module examinations/assessments during Pre MD training, and it is therefore not be eligible to sit for the next MD Examination, the said MD Examination shall be counted as an attempt.

5. Past question papers are available in the PGIM Library http://librepository.pgim.cmb.ac.lk/handle/1/2146

6. Candidates who are eligible to sit the MD examination are required to be present for the first scheduled examination after completion of the training programme. If a candidate does not apply or does not sit the first scheduled examination or subsequent scheduled examinations for reasons not acceptable to the Board of Study, the examinations will be counted as attempts.

7. Please note that **candidates are allowed only 6 attempts at the MD examination which must be completed within a period of 8 years from the date of first examination**. However, after failing the fifth attempt the candidate should undergo a minimum period of one year further training before permitted to sit for the sixth attempt.

8. Each year only the scheduled Examination in the approved examination calendar will be held. **No repeat or additional examinations will be held**.

9. The allocation of post MD training units will be done as described in "General Regulations & Guidelines– 2026" and according to the approved procedure by the PGIM based on merit. **The allocated training units shall not be changed for personal reasons.**

10. The subspecialties available and the number to be allocated to each shall be determined by the Ministry of Health and the qualified candidates will be informed before or at the allocation meeting.

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11. Post-MD trainees should commence post-MD overseas training within two (02) years after the expected date of completing local post-MD training. Any delay will be added to the date of effective Board Certification. Post-MD trainees who delay commencing overseas post-MD training by more than four (04) years after the expected date of completing local post-MD training will have their trainee status terminated.

12. There should be no delay in submitting the dissertation or research report within the stipulated period as prescribed in the prospectus. If there is delay, the Board Certification will be delayed accordingly.

13. The minimum duration of Post MD training required to be eligible for Board Certification shall be one year local and one year overseas. However, the duration may be more than two years in certain sub specialties and the information is available in the prospectus.

14. The candidates should pass the Pre-Board Certification Assessment to be eligible for Board Certification. The details are available at the PGIM for perusal.

15. The trainees must, within one (1) calendar month of satisfactory completion of the prescribed requirements, apply for Board Certification. All relevant documents must be submitted with the application. Failure to do so will result in a delay of effective date of Board Certification.

16. The prescribed fees for the examinations are as follows:

(a) Application fee	- Rs. 9,500.00	(non refundable)
(b) Registration fee	- Rs. 17,500.00	(non refundable)
(c) Examination fee	- Rs. 152,000.00	

(Note that the only payments made through the PGIM online portal will be accepted)
(Private candidates will be charged 50% more on each fee of the PGIM)

17. The application form can be downloaded from the website http://pgim.cmb.ac.lk.

18. All examination applications and other documents will be collected through a Google form https://forms.gle/KvN2W2aqBoZecR856 on or before **10th December 2026**. Candidates have to use the email accounts created by the PGIM to access the Google form. The exam application with all relevant documents must be attached as a single pdf document since this portal does not allow uploading of multiple documents . **Please note that incomplete , handwritten , late submission and application sent via email will not be accepted.**

19. The results will be valid and official only after they are approved by the **Senate of the University of Colombo.**

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20. The candidates will be issued an **"Examination Feedback Form"** with the admission documents. Feedback in Part II should be limited to concerns, if any, regarding the conduct of the examination (eg. perceived biases, discriminatory behaviour, harassment, intimidation) and NOT regarding the format or content of the examination. The form should be sent back to Director/PGIM under confidential cover **within 48 hours after conclusion of the examination. No concerns regarding the examination will be entertained after 48 hours of conclusion of the examination or following the release of results** nor will these be investigated by the PGIM.

21. Please refer to the new regulations laid down by Ministry of Health regarding release of Medical Officers of Department of Health website – http://www.health.gov.lk.

22. Candidates are requested to visit the PGIM website for further updates. http://pgim.cmb.ac.lk.

23. Please bring the contents of the Circular Letter to the notice of all medical officers concerned in your department/division/faculty.

Professor Surangi G. Yasawardene
MBBS, PhD
Director
Postgraduate Institute of Medicine
University of Colombo

Professor Surangi G. Yasawardene

Director/PGIM