

## Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and title:	PG Diploma Clinical Dermatology
Name of interim award(s):	
Duration of study / period of registration:	18 months, part-time by Distance Learning
Queen Mary programme code(s):	PDPP-DLICMS3-PSCDR (A3EO)
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	
Responsible School / Institute:	Blizard Institute

Schools / Institutes which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme:

Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry

Collaborative institution(s) / organisation(s) involved in delivering the programme:

NA

### Programme outline

The Part-time programme for the Diploma is a 2 year distance learning course for both UK and overseas students. Course contains 6 modules in total, of 5-6 weeks duration, studied over 2 years, which cover the broad dermatological curriculum relevant to those working in Primary Care or in the wider Community. The course contains 6 virtual, interactive Clinical Days in which formal lectures are supplemented by clinical case small group consultant - led teaching and discussion. This is supplemented by 7 real-time interactive, on-line group webinars. The course contains a wide range of multimedia teaching material to complement the written teaching materials.

The award of Diploma is made on completion of 120 credits of study ( 60 credits per year) and successful completion of assessments, comprising written Clinical Examination (composed of EMQ and Data Handling questions), weekly MCQs and completion of one x 1500 word piece of written coursework.

### Aims of the programme

The programme aims to provide postgraduate training to general practitioners to enable them to deal with their dermatological workload appropriately, having acquired the basic clinical information needed to recognise and manage the whole range of common skin diseases, plus gain some exposure to the less common dermatological conditions. Having completed the

Programme practitioners will be better equipped to diagnose and manage dermatological cases in their practices, form appropriate referrals to secondary care and improve patient care.

### What will you be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of the programme students will have:

#### Academic Content:

A 1	Have a good grounding in description of dermatological lesions and conditions
A 2	Have a thorough knowledge of the use of topical, systemic and surgical treatments for dermatological disease
A 3	Have a knowledge of basic cutaneous histopathology and its role in diagnosis and clinicopathological correlation

#### Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	manage a variety of common cutaneous problems in the community
B 2	utilise other members of the Primary Care Team in patient care where appropriate
B 3	engage in joint care of patients

#### Attributes:

C 1	Enhanced skills in management of the dermatological patient
C 2	engage critically with knowledge
C 3	demonstrate rounded intellectual development and clarity of thought

### How will you learn?

The programme comprises of 6 Compulsory Modules of between 5 and 6 weeks duration covering the Core Dermatological curriculum as relevant to Primary Care/Community Dermatology.

Learning will take place via:

-Self directed learning- reading the modular core curriculum contained in each module  
-Group learning- online formal didactic lectures and small group clinical case teaching during clinical days as well as on line interactive group webinars on specific topics. These take place both as live and recorded on line tutorials and lectures.  
-Individual critical analysis of published case reports and RCTs during the preparation of the written coursework.  
-interaction with the Course Directors during the academic year, via email or during on line sessions.  
Students can interact with each other and the Course Directors via the VLE, either as discussion forums, question boards, or interactive case studies.  
Lectures have been captured in entirety and uploaded onto the VLE.  
Students undertake self-directed learning within their own practice environment, and students will be encouraged to identify their own learning needs as the modules progress.  
Students will have access the Library in person or via QMplus.

### How will you be assessed?

Assessment is via coursework of MCQ and 1 x written report and final written examination

### How is the programme structured?

Please specify the structure of the programme diets for all variants of the programme (e.g. full-time, part-time - if applicable). The description should be sufficiently detailed to fully define the structure of the diet.

The programme comprises 6 compulsory modules, of 5-6 weeks duration covering the Core Dermatological curriculum.

4 modules will be covered in the first year and 2 modules in the second year (60 credits being covered each year).

The Diploma is 120 credits.

Students are encouraged to attend all webinars and clinical days. Material is recorded and placed on the VLE for those that can not join live. Interactive real-time webinars occur twice termly and these are also recorded and placed on the VLE.

Academic Year of Study PT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Introduction and Common Dermatological Problems	ICM7011	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1

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Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Paediatric Dermatology, Cutaneous Surgery and Drug Reaction	ICM7160	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Inflammatory and Papulosquamous Disorders	ICM7013	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Dermatoses of Specific Sites, Ages or Skin Types	ICM7014	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Clinical Days (UK) /Online tutorials (Overseas)	ICM7017	0	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1-3

Academic Year of Study PT - Year 2

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Cutaneous Neoplasms, Benign and Malignant	ICM7159	45	7	Compulsory	2	Semesters 1 & 2
Sunshine and the Skin, Urticaria, Psyche and the Skin and Uncommon Infections	ICM7015	15	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 2
Clinical Days (UK) /Online tutorials (Overseas)	ICM7017	0	7	Compulsory	1	Semesters 1-3

**What are the entry requirements?**

MB BS or equivalent and Proficiency in written and spoken English is essential and non-native English speakers are required to have a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 (overseas students).

**How will the quality of the programme be managed and enhanced? How do we listen to and act on your feedback?**

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools/institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school/institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school/institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. Staff-Student Liaison Committees meet regularly throughout the year.

Each school/institute operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School/Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools/institutes operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. APR is a

continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the PTES, module evaluations, and SSLC minutes.

### **What academic support is available?**

Students are encouraged to interact with academic staff during the Clinical Days and online webinars and during the course via online discussion forums etc. Each module tutor has their name and contact details clearly displayed and welcomes interaction with students during the duration of that module.

Members of the faculty ( all Consultant Dermatologists) mark all assessed work and provide written feedback on the in course assessments.

If a student is having difficulty with a particular module, or topic, additional teaching support will be provided.

### **Programme-specific rules and facts**

### **How inclusive is the programme for all students, including those with disabilities?**

The Blizzard Institute is committed to supporting disabled students of all backgrounds, and have close links with QM DDS and student support services. Academic advisors and course tutors are encouraged to closely monitor the experience of disabled students, and provide all necessary support and referrals as needed.

The programme will aim to identify and assist any undiagnosed students who may be suffering from SpLD within the first semester. All efforts will be made to support these students in collaboration with the services offered by QM.

All students (including DL students) are given the opportunity for a disability and dyslexia assessment, and the programme will work to implement all recommendations made by QM for diagnosed students.

The learning material is created to ensure it meets the QM standard for accessibility and is available across all platforms.

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one study skills tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)
- Access to specialist mentoring support for students with mental health issues and Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

### **Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills**

On completion our students will have the theoretical and practical background to become competent and confident in managing dermatological patients in the community.

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Some may go on to work as a GPwSI, for which completion of the Diploma forms one aspect of the recommended requirements.

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## Programme Specification Approval

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**Person completing Programme Specification:**

Prof Victoria Jolliffe

**Person responsible for management of programme:**

Prof Victoria Jolliffe

**Date Programme Specification produced / amended by  
School / Institute Education Committee:**

19/01/2024 (for Sept 2024)

**Date Programme Specification approved by Taught  
Programmes Board:**