

Programme Specification (PG)

Awarding body / institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Name of final award and title:	Postgraduate Certificate in Tuberculosis
Name of interim award(s):	
Duration of study / period of registration:	1 year Distance Learning
Queen Mary programme code(s):	
QAA Benchmark Group:	
FHEQ Level of Award:	Level 7
Programme accredited by:	
Date Programme Specification approved:	9 Oct 2024
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

Blizard Institute

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

Barts Health NHS Trust

Programme outline

The Postgraduate Certificate in Tuberculosis (TB) is a one year, 60 credit programme designed to bridge the current gap in education and training. TB is the leading infectious disease killer and one of the most exciting and fascinating fields of medicine. This distance learning course will be of interest to qualified doctors, as well as nurses working in TB units. Students complete four modules over two semesters:

1. Multidrug-resistant Tuberculosis
2. Public Health in Tuberculosis
3. Introduction to Tuberculosis
4. Risk Factors and Risk Groups

The six week long modules are delivered consecutively. Each module is worth 15 credits and consists of 18-20 hours of lectures

and 10-12 hours of tutorials delivered by leading experts. In addition, students will be expected to complete independent study, such as external reading.

Aims of the programme

This Postgraduate Certificate aims to assist doctors and TB nurses to develop the knowledge and skills required to be highly skilled practitioners in the field of Tuberculosis. It is designed to teach students to appraise diagnosis of Tuberculosis and evaluate management of challenging risk groups and multi-drug resistant disease. Students will have the opportunity to assess public health aspects of Tuberculosis, interrogate research, and attain skills in evidence-based analysis and decision making. Overall, this PG Cert will help professionalize the student, allowing them to manage TB clinically and programmatically in a variety of different settings, troubleshoot challenging cases, and develop their own policies, guidelines and research protocols.

What will you be expected to achieve?

By the end of the programme students will be able to:

- Evaluate diagnosis and clinical aspects of Tuberculosis, including its prevention
- Evaluate management of Tuberculosis in a variety of settings and circumstances, including challenging risk groups and multi-drug resistant Tuberculosis
- Summarise and analyse evidence based theory
- Appraise research related to Tuberculosis, including aspects of public health
- Employ a critical approach to use of information from a range of sources in analysis and decision making.

Academic Content:

A 1	Appraise diagnosis and management of Tuberculosis (TB)
A 2	Evaluate management of challenging at risk groups and scenarios
A 3	Examine management of Multidrug-resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB)
A 4	Analyse and appraise research related to Tuberculosis
A 5	Examine Public Health of Tuberculosis

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

B 1	Comprehensively analyse & appraise Tuberculosis with an emphasis on prevention, diagnosis and management of drug-susceptible and drug-resistant Tuberculosis
B 2	Evaluate the clinical aspects of Tuberculosis including its prevention, summarising the evidence based theory
B 3	Develop abilities to manage a variety of TB cases in different settings, including particular scenarios and challenges
B 4	Devise TB policy for local and national settings

Attributes:	
C 1	Evaluate current best practice management of Tuberculosis
C 2	Identify and breakdown the research priorities in Tuberculosis are with some different examples for several main areas
C 3	Develop research area of interest
C 4	Prepare to manage MDR-TB patients safely and effectively
C 5	Evaluate mechanisms to improve patient outcome and retention
C 6	Formulate plans to guide individual patient management of Tuberculosis
C 7	Develop a patient centred approach and holistic care, based on capacity to create an individualised treatment plan specific for each patient
C 8	Formulate plans to guide individual patient management in a variety of different patients of different age, comorbidity and disease severity.
C 9	Develop a critical approach to use of information from a range of sources in evidence-based analysis and decision making, based on guidelines and best available evidence for your patient

How will you learn?

This course is taught by a dedicated team of experts in the field of Tuberculosis. Students study 4 compulsory modules on TB, Risk Factors, multidrug-resistant TB and Public Health . Online lectures will be delivered weekly, with supporting follow up online tutorials with a relevant academic/tutor. Students are expected to view their lectures via QMplus and engage with their academic leaders on these topics.

Other forms of guided learning are:

- weekly lectures and materials, all online via QMplus
- online meetings and tutorials with academics and the course team
- online assessment
- online discussion forums

The University has its own virtual learning environment (VLE) called QMplus which plays a key role in the learning experience. Students can use the online forums to exchange ideas with their peers and also with their module leaders.

Students are also expected to match guided learning with self-directed learning to prepare for lectures and assessments.

How will you be assessed?

The primary type of assessment will be time-restricted structured tests, specifically designed to evaluate the module and programme learning outcomes.

The structured tests may consist of MCQs, short answer questions, and/or longer essay questions to permit good discrimination. Students will have the opportunity to attempt formative questions to ensure they are prepared for summative assessments. At least one module also will contain assessment via written coursework, to permit development of critical appraisal and written presentation skills.

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 will be offered part-time via distance learning over one academic year. Modules will be offered consecutively and will each be six weeks in duration.

Students starting in January will receive access to Module 1 online alongside with an offer of 1-2 tutorials (as requested) to ensure enough understanding before taking M3. The programme then starts with Multi-drug resistant TB and Public Health. This is followed by an overview of TB with an emphasis on prevention, diagnosis and management of drug-susceptible follow by a module on Risk Factors & Risk Groups, .

COMPULSORY

1. Multidrug-resistant Tuberculosis (Semester 2)
2. Public Health in Tuberculosis (Semester 2)
3. Introduction to Tuberculosis (Semester 1)
4. Risk Factors and Risk Groups (Semester 1)

Academic Year of Study PT - Year 1

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Multidrug-resistant Tuberculosis	ICM7211	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Public Health in Tuberculosis	ICM7214	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Introduction to Tuberculosis	ICM7210	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Risk and Risk Factors	ICM7212	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1

What are the entry requirements?

A medical degree OR a nursing degree with 2 or more years experience working with Tuberculosis (TB)
 - Personal statement explaining the reasons for applying for this PG Cert and what the candidate hopes to gain
 - Clinical/academic letter of reference

English language requirements for international students:
 IELTS - 6.5 overall with 6.0 in reading & writing

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

Student evaluation and feedback will be requested after the completion of each module.
 Programme review is continuous and discussed both at the Subject Exam Board (with External Examiners) and at an annual programme review meeting with senior Blizard Institute management.
 The programme encourages active student representation on the Staff and Student Liaison Committee (SSLC). The SSLC provides a formal means of communication and discussion between institutes and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each programme in the institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the institute. It

is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments where appropriate.
The SSLC meets regularly throughout the year. Students on the PGCert in TB would be asked to nominate a representative (or representatives) to report to SSLC meetings. As Distance Learning students, they would not be expected to attend in person, rather they would be asked to submit a written report gathered from their colleagues which would be formally reviewed by the SSLC. Programme leads are asked to provide comments/feedback on any issues raised by the student representatives.

What academic support is available?

Students on this programme will be studying via distance learning, and will engage with each other and programme tutors via a combination of online discussion forums, one to one email support, and live online tutorial sessions. Students will be encouraged to support each other in their research and discussion.
Each student will be invited to view the recorded institute PGT induction programme once they have formally enrolled, which will include sessions on academic writing, plagiarism, referencing and pastoral support.
Each student will be provided with a dedicated personal tutor. This tutor will support the student on an academic and pastoral level as required, referring issues to the programme director and academic coordinator when appropriate

Programme-specific rules and facts

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

The programme endeavours to utilise all available support offered by QMUL, and follows the guidelines given by student services on support for disabilities.
QMUL 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 QMUL 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
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues

Links with employers, placement opportunities and transferable skills

Contact with lecturers who are experts in the field working in clinical based environments, NGOs, academia and Supranational organizations.
Research project development with experts in the field.
Introduction to the Global TB Network.
Skills that are transferable to clinical practice, field work, trials, National TB programmes.

Programme Specification Approval

Programme Title: PG Cert Tuberculosis

Person completing Programme Specification:

Rebecca Chappell

Person responsible for management of programme:

Dr Dominik Zenner

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

2 Oct 2024

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board:

9 Oct 2024