



Distance Education Course
CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE
VELLORE – 632 004
DEPARTMENT OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN FAMILY MEDICINE
(DISTANCE EDUCATION) (For all MBBS & Post Graduate DOCTORS)
(Prospectus for the course commencing from January 2012)
The last date for submission of the filled in application is 5th February 2012

I. PREAMBLE:

There are close to 2,50,000 General Practitioners in India who have no access to postgraduate education. Since the government has not mandated continuous education for physicians, most of the GP's do not make much effort to remain up-to-date with the developments in the medical education. The lack of continuous updating of the knowledge and skills by these GP's has led to a situation where there are excessive referrals because they are not confident in handling cases even with the slightest complication. Many patients, therefore, end up visiting multi-specialty hospitals where the health care costs are very high. No wonder, in a World Bank study done in the year 2004, it was found that the private health care sector was responsible for drowning many below the poverty line!

A '**Family Physician**' is a multi-competent specialist who not only provides the point of first contact, but also provides the continuum of care. The number of 'Family Physicians' – doctors satisfying the above definition – in the Indian sub-continent is grossly inadequate to cater to the huge population.

It is with the above scenario in mind that the Department of Distance Education of the C.M.C. & H., Vellore started the two-year course leading to the Post-Graduate Diploma in Family Medicine. The first batch of candidates started their course in November, 2006.

II. THE OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the PGDFM programme is to build the capacity of GP's and enable them to manage more cases so that referral becomes less necessary – hence the **motto: 'Refer less, Resolve more'**.

The ultimate beneficiaries of the programme will be patients from the financially weaker section of the population, especially those from the rural areas.

Thus, the programme leads to a win-win situation for the patients and the GP's, as the former find a one-window solution, while the latter (who would have become multi-competent) find a much larger scope for their practice.

III. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

1. Valid MBBS Degree
2. Women candidates will be given preference
3. Motivation to pursue and complete the course as prescribed in order to improve their practice.
4. There is no entrance test or interview.

IV. COURSE DETAILS:

- a) **Duration:** The PGDFM programme is a **2 year** course.
- b) **The Curriculum:** The curriculum comprises of about 75 problem-based, interactive modules printed in 12 volumes prepared by highly qualified and experienced faculty of CMC.
- c) **Video-lectures:** There are about 75 video-lectures which are made available to the candidates during the two-year course.
- d) **Contact Programmes:** Participants will be required to attend compulsory 3 sessions of contact classes – (10+10+10days) during the course period of 2 years.

Contact session-1	During 1 st Year	During July / August 2012
Contact session-2	During 2 nd Year	During February 2013
Contact session-3	During 2 nd Year	During November / December 2013

Important: 100% attendance (30 days) is mandatory for the candidate to become eligible for the award of the certificate.

Note: All dates are subject to revision.

List of Regional Study Centres for the PGDFM programme

Tamil Nadu:

1. Christian Medical College, Vellore
2. Christian Fellowship Hospital, Oddanchatram, Dindigul Dist.
3. Railway Hospital, Perambur, Chennai

Kerala:

4. Little Flower Hospital & Research Centre, Angamaly, Ernakulum Dist.
5. MOSC Medical College, Kolencherry, Ernakulam, Kerala

Karnataka:

6. Bangalore Baptist Hospital, Hebbal, Bangalore – 24

Andhra Pradesh:

7. Vijay Marie Hospital. Khairatabad, Hyderabad-4

West Bengal:

8. Mission of Mercy Hospital, Park Street, Kolkata.

Delhi:

9. St. Stephen's Hospital, Tiz Hazari, Delhi – 54.

Assam:

10. Baptist Christian Hospital, Tezpur, Sonitpur Dt. – 784001, Assam
11. Makunda Christian Hospital, Makunda, Near Churai Vari. Karimganj District, Assam

(Effort will be made to give the opted centre, however allotment of centre is at the discretion of the institution)

- e) **Assignments:** There are 12 MCQ based assignments that the candidates will have to submit as partial fulfillment of the course.
- f) **Project Work:** The candidates are also required to complete a project work.
- g) **Examinations:** Candidates doing the Post-Graduate Diploma in Family Medicine (PGDFM) programme have to write two examinations, one each at the end of the 1st Year and other at the end of the 2nd year.
There are two papers: Paper 1 (Theory) and Paper 2 (Practical-OSCE based)

h) Skill Training (Optional) Interested candidates can opt for an elective in skills training in areas of their choices (eg. OG, Orthopaedics, Paediatrics etc) for a period of 1 week to 6 months. This skills training will be based in Mission Hospitals allotted by CMC.

V) CRITERIA FOR THE AWARD OF DIPLOMA: A candidate should satisfy the following criteria for the successful completion of the course:

- i) 50% mark in the theory examination (1st year and 2nd year together)
- ii) 50% mark in the practical examination (1st year and 2nd year together)
- iii) 100% attendance in contact programs.
- iv) 50% mark in the assignments.
- v) 50% mark in Project Work.
- vi) The course should be completed within 4 years.

VI) PAYMENT OF FEES:

The total Course Fee for the 2-year Programme is Rs.35,000/=. The fee can be paid in **2 Installments.**

- Last date for the payment of the 1st Installment (Rs.20,000/=) 20th Feb, 2012
- Last date for the payment of the 2nd Installment (Rs.15,000/=) 5th July, 2012

Foreign candidates who are holding a valid MBBS degree can also apply for the course.

Fee for the foreign candidates will differ according to the country they belong to. Foreign candidates are asked to send an email to know the course fee with their full address.

The fee has to be paid only after getting the selection intimation from us.

The fees once paid cannot be refunded to the candidates for any reason.

Scholarship for candidates working /willing to work in the Mission Hospitals which are affiliated to CMC, Vellore

Those candidates who are working or willing to work in the hospitals which are affiliated to the CMC council are eligible for the scholarship. Send an email to know the details or contact us over phone 0416-2283451.

VII) ADMISSION PROCEDURE

Application and prospectus:

Application needs to be downloaded from our website. To download go to www.cmch-vellore.edu click on to “Education/Admission” and select “Distance Education – PG Diploma in FM”.

The filled in application should be sent along with DD for an amount of Rs.200/= drawn in favour of “**CMC Vellore Association**” payable at Vellore to the address given underneath.

The last date for submission of the filled in application is 5th February 2012

Contact Details:

Email ID dedu@cmcvellore.ac.in

Phone No. **0416-2283451 0416-2283433 09003461291**

APPLICATION SHOULD BE SENT TO FOLLOWING ADDRESS

Dr. Jachin Velavan

Coordinator

Department of Distance Education,

2nd Floor, Main Block, CMC Hospital,

Ida Scudder Road, Vellore – 632 004. Tamil Nadu