

Regulations for the award of the Degree of MBBS (Direct Entry Programme)

1 General Information

- 1.1 The degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery will be awarded to any student who has completed the appropriate programmes of study and passed examinations as a student at the College in accordance with the following Regulations and with such other Regulations for students of the College as may be applicable.
- 1.2 The Direct Entry programme of study extends over three years.
- 1.3 The same courses and examinations are taken for the degree and for the Associateship of the Imperial College School of Medicine. Both the degree and the Associateship will be awarded to the successful students provided that they have satisfied the requirements of the College.

2 Conditions of Admission

- 2.1 Before admission to the MBBS (Direct Entry) programme of study, a candidate must satisfy the general entrance requirements of the College, and satisfy any additional requirements prescribed by the College for admission to the MBBS (Direct Entry) degree.

3 Programme of Study

3.1 Direct Entry Year 1

The Year 1 consists of a series of clinical attachments, which may be at any of the hospitals associated with the School. The emphasis throughout will be on the acquisition of core skills and knowledge in general medicine (including cardiovascular, renal, respiratory and cancer medicine, gastroenterology, endocrinology, medicine for the elderly) general surgery (including gastrointestinal, breast and vascular surgery, urology), anaesthetics and clinical pharmacology and therapeutics. Additional teaching is delivered via a lecture programme, partly in the form of e-learning modules, alongside the clinical attachments and problem-based learning cases will be studied within attachments, often based on actual current patients. The Medical Ethics and Law course and parts of the communication skills and personal and professional development courses will be taught and examined during the first term.

Core learning is based on:

- Medical or surgical takes.
- GP teaching: basic clinical skills/methods in general practice.
- Patient clerking: to clerk (take the history and examine) at least 2 patients each week and write up these case histories. Students are assessed on two of these written clerkings each firm, separate from the case project.

- Consultant teaching: key cases relating to the firm - students will be expected to present patients during these sessions and this forms part of the assessment.
- Problem based learning.
- Lecture course; including live lectures plus e-learning modules.
- Other teaching: this will depend on the nature of the clinical programme of the attachment, but could include: outpatient clinic teaching, theatre sessions, endoscopy sessions, anaesthetic sessions.
- Private study

3.2 **Second and Third Years**

Years 2 and 3 of the Direct Entry Programme correspond exactly to the Finals Phase (Years 5 and 6) of the 6-year MBBS/BSc. Please refer to the relevant section on the MBBS/BSc regulations.

4 **Examinations**

4.1 Entry to all examinations will normally be conditional upon students having attended the corresponding courses and completed any incourse assessment to the satisfaction of the College. In the case of illness, or other exceptional circumstances, students may be permitted to defer entry to the examinations. In these cases students may be required to follow an extra course of study.

If a candidate is prevented by illness or other adequate cause from entering an examination, independent verification and/or documentary evidence must be provided.

Candidates' work during the programme may be taken into account and marks given for course work may be included in one or more components of the examinations.

Written papers may include essay questions, case studies, Short Answer Questions (SAQ), Single Best Answer Questions (SBA) and Extended Matching Questions (EMQ). Papers may incorporate several examination formats.

Clinical assessments may include Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE), Practical Assessment of Clinical Examination Skills (PACES), short cases and long cases, an assessment of candidates' practical notebooks or logbooks, oral assessments and observed consultations (e.g. mini-CEXs, case based discussions, directly observed procedures).

Candidates will be credited with any Paper or Papers in which they have satisfied the examiners.

Oral examinations may include an assessment of the candidate's practical notebooks or logbooks.

4.2 The examinations will be as follows:

4.2.1 Direct Entry **Year 1** examinations will be held twice a year, and will include:

Paper 1: A written examination covering the learning objectives for the clinical attachments and the lecture/e-learning programme

Paper 2: A written examination covering Medical Ethics and Law, Communications Skills and Personal and Professional Development

Clinical Examinations: An Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

A candidate who fails at the second attempt will normally be required to withdraw from the medical programme.

4.2.2 Second and Final Year Examinations

Years 2 and 3 of the Direct Entry MBBS correspond exactly to Years 5 and 6 of the 6-year MBBS/BSc.

Please refer to the relevant section on the MBBS/BSc regulations.

5 Award of the Associateship of the Imperial College School of Medicine

- 5.1 For the Associateship, the minimum period of study at the College is two years including the penultimate and final years of the programme.
- 5.2 The Associateship of the Imperial College School of Medicine will be awarded to successful students who have complied with the requirements of the College, including the payment of all due sessional fees. A diploma of Associateship will be sent to each successful student.