

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECOGNITION OF A NEW MEDICAL SPECIALTY BY MALAYSIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL

Preamble

Regulation 22 of the Medical (Amended) Act 2012 provides for the formation of a Medical Education Committee (MEC) by The Malaysian Medical Council (MMC). The function of the MEC is to recognise training institution and the qualification awarded by the recognised training institution for the purposes of registration of medical practitioners by MMC. The Malaysian Medical Council has established the Malaysian Standards for Medical Specialist Training and all existing and new medical specialties programmes have to meet these standards. A new Medical Specialty is one which, as of 1st July 2017 is not in the list of specialties recognised by the National Specialist Register. A proposal to start a new Medical Specialty can be made to the MEC. The following guidelines facilitates the process of application.

1. Proposer(s) of a new medical specialty must submit to the MEC an application to start the specialty. The application should amongst others detail:
 - a. the rationale for starting the specialty
 - b. the relevance of the specialty in the overall national healthcare policies and plans
 - c. the demand for such specialists including the expected number needed for the country
 - d. the capability to start the specialty including availability of resources needed for training and meeting the Malaysian Standards for Medical Specialist Training
 - e. whether the proposed specialty can be incorporated in any existing specialty
2. MEC will review the application and recommend to MMC to
 - a. accept the proposal
 - b. accept the proposal subject to conditions
 - c. reject the proposal
3. MMC will give a provisional approval or reject the application.
4. Once a provisional approval is given, MEC will form a Specialty Education Subcommittee (SSC-Edu) to:
 - a. develop the specialty- specific standards
 - b. propose competencies to be achieved during training
 - c. recognised training centres
5. The SSC-Edu will submit the specialty-specific standards and related matters to the MEC for its comments and recommendations to MMC.
6. MMC will, upon receipt of the recommendations, grant recognition to the educational training provider and the qualification. It may refuse recognition and shall provide reasons for its decision.
7. MMC will inform NSR and MQA (when relevant) of the final decision of MMC on the establishment of the new medical specialty and the latter will take the necessary steps to recognise those who have successfully completed training and register them.

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECOGNITION OF AN EXISTING MEDICAL SPECIALTY BY THE MALAYSIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL

Regulation 22 of the Medical (Amended) Act 2012 provides for the formation of a Medical Education Committee (MEC) by The Malaysian Medical Council (MMC). The function of the MEC is to recognise training institution and the qualification awarded by the recognised training institution for the purposes of registration of medical practitioners by MMC. The Malaysian Medical Council has established the Malaysian Standards for Medical Specialist Training and all existing and new medical specialties programmes have to meet these standards. An existing Medical Specialty is one which, as of 1st July 2017 is in the list of specialties recognised by the National Specialist Register (NSR).

The following guidelines serve to facilitate recognition of the existing Medical Specialties by the MMC.

1. MMC will form the Specialty Education Subcommittee (SSC-Edu) for all medical specialties presently listed in the NSR.
2. The SSC-Edu will submit a formal request to MEC for its specialty to be recognised by MMC. In its request, it will list the existing educational training providers and centres for the specialty.
3. MEC will review each request and make its recommendation to MMC to recognise the specialty and the educational training provider(s).
4. MMC will grant recognition of the specialty and also the educational training provider(s).
5. The recognition will be of a limited period to be decided of the Council.
6. During this period, the SSC-Edu will be required to:
 - a. develop specialty – specific standards and
 - b. competencies to be achieved by the trainees
 - c. recognise the list of training providers and centre and make recommendations for any changes
7. The SSC-Edu submits its proposals on the above (No. 6) to MEC.
8. MEC will recommend to council to grant recognition to the recommended training provider(s) and the qualifications upon satisfactory review of the proposal by SSC-Edu.
9. MMC will grant recognition to the recommended educational training provider(s) and the qualification.

Prepared by:
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Approved by:
Malaysian Medical Council
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