

# DIPLOMA/MSc IN CLINICAL DERMATOLOGY (DCD/MScCD) Course Prospectus



## Key Information:

- The Diploma/Masters of Science in Clinical Dermatology (DCD/MScCD) is a full-time taught course based in Cardiff, Wales.
- The course is suitable for medical practitioners who have at least two years general medical experience.
- This course is particularly suitable for overseas medical graduates but is also appropriate as an additional course to contribute to any dermatology specialist training programme.
- This course is quotable in Hong Kong and Singapore.
- This course is designed to give a firm grounding in the fundamentals of clinical and scientific dermatology. It gives priority to clinical instruction, but also emphasises the scientific content of dermatology.

## Clinical Dermatology

Full-time Taught Course

Intake: September

Diploma Duration: Nine months (Stage 1)

MSc Duration: Twelve months (Stage 1 & 2)

### AIM

The Diploma/MSc in Clinical Dermatology course (DCD/MScCD) is a structured programme designed for doctors who wish to specialise in dermatology after gaining at least two years general medical experience.

### COURSE STRUCTURE

It is a full-time course based in the Welsh Institute of Dermatology, Glamorgan House at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff, UK. You will be required to attend daily teaching sessions (including some weekends).

There are frequent lectures and workshops from members of the Dermatology Department in Cardiff, specialist speakers from other major British dermatology centres, and visiting international experts in subjects of global importance such as Tropical Dermatology and Pigmented Skin Disease. There are more than 75 lecturers who teach on the course, including many eminent and internationally known dermatologists.

In addition to this, students have the opportunity to participate in all major departmental, local and regional dermatology meetings and the weekly grand rounds at the University Hospital of Wales.

#### Patient Interaction:

Each student is personally allocated to the Dermatology Day Treatment Unit for two weeks for practical clinical experience. Students also have the

opportunity to attend regular general outpatient dermatology clinics and grand rounds in Cardiff as well as day visits to other dermatology centres in Wales.

#### Live Surgery:

Students will be able to watch live surgical demonstrations supervised by a lecturer. In 2009 **the department won a 'Times Higher Leadership and Management Award' in the 'Outstanding ICT Initiative' for this live surgery section of the course.**

#### Communication Course:

A professional communication course has been added into the initiation weeks of the programme. This course is helpful in preparing students for their patient consultations both during the course and after in their own practice. The course is run by a communication consultant and includes a team of trained actors to make the scenarios as real as possible.

#### Journal Analysis:

A series of journal analysis sessions are held, to which all students contribute journal article presentations in order to gain expertise in critical evaluation of published work.

#### Course Website:

The course is managed through an interactive website and all of the course resources and departmental activities are available through this site.

### COURSE CONTENT

This course gives prominence to the following topics: skin histopathology, clinical immunology as applied to dermatology, microbiology of the skin, photobiology, inflammatory dermatology, skin

cancer, skin surgical techniques, newer diagnostic techniques, research methods in dermatology and cosmetic dermatology.

Other major topics covered include the relationships between the skin and internal disorders, socio-economic and psychological consequences of skin diseases, pharmacology and the skin, and principles of treatment of skin disease, cutaneous aspects of sexually transmitted disease, tropical dermatology and contact dermatitis.

Clinical lecture & clinical slide tutorial topics include: ectoparasites & the skin, genetics & the skin, hair & nails, nursing treatment in dermatology, paediatric dermatology and pregnancy rashes.

### ASSESSMENT

In-course assessment is carried out during the course in which group activities, a short clinical review and clinical performance are assessed.

The examinations take place over four days and consist of clinical and written segments. They are conducted by internal and external examiners.

Following successful completion of the Stage 1 examinations, Diploma students will exit the programme (and receive a Diploma certificate) while MSc students continue on to Stage 2 (dissertation).

This stage lasts for three months, beginning in June with a short teaching block and ending with the successful completion of a 20,000 word thesis. The topic of the thesis will be discussed with your tutor.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This course is particularly suitable for overseas medical graduates, but is also appropriate as an additional course to contribute to any dermatology specialist training programme.

You must have at least two years general medical experience and have a good standard of English. Proof of qualifications will be required for your application.

### HOW TO APPLY

- Go to [www.dermatology.org.uk](http://www.dermatology.org.uk) to access the online application form.
- Applicants are required to submit a completed application form, at least two references and produce evidence of their qualifications and general suitability.
- Once your application has been approved by the department, you are required to pay a non-refundable deposit. This deposit secures your place on the course.

Places on this course are strictly limited so early application is recommended.

If you would like further information about any of our courses, please contact us (details overleaf).

*Please note: Applicants can choose to apply for the Diploma (Stage 1) or the MSc (Stage 1 & 2) in Clinical Dermatology. Please ensure you choose the correct course for your Visa requirements.*

## TOPICS COVERED IN THE COURSE INCLUDE:

### ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, AND BIOCHEMISTRY OF THE SKIN:

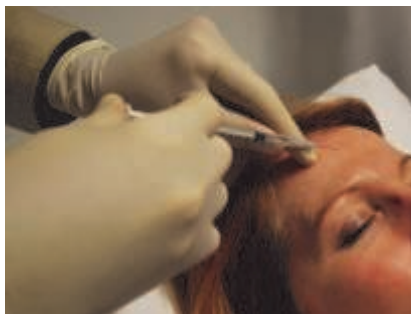
This is based on a course of lectures which cover the following topics: epidermis and stratum corneum, dermis, blood supply to the skin, nerve supply to the skin, hair follicles, sebaceous glands, apocrine and eccrine sweat glands, keratinization, epidermopoiesis, sweat secretion, hair cycle, pigmentation, collagen synthesis, cells of the dermis, wound healing, regional anatomy, ageing of the skin.

### CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY AND THE SKIN:

This topic is taught through a course of lectures covering: immunological principles, allergy, manifestations of immune reactions in the skin, investigation of immune status, testing for delayed hypersensitivity, testing for immediate hypersensitivity, immunofluorescence diagnosis, skin signs of the immunocompromised patient.

### COSMETIC DERMATOLOGY:

This includes lectures on facial peels, procedures such as botox for wrinkles, collagen injections, lasers in dermatology and cosmetic formulations. Practical demonstrations are included wherever possible.



### GENITO-URINARY DERMATOLOGY:

A clinical attachment to a genito-urinary clinic is arranged, and there is a series of lectures

throughout the course. All aspects of genito-urinary medicine related to dermatology, including AIDS, are introduced.

### MICROBIOLOGY OF THE SKIN:

This topic is taught through a series of lectures which cover the following topics: normal skin flora, microbiological techniques, mycological principles, bacterial disease of the skin, viral disease of the skin, fungal disease of the skin, chemotherapeutic agents.

### PAEDIATRIC DERMATOLOGY:

This segment of the course covers congenital and acquired skin conditions encountered in the paediatric population.

### PATHOLOGY OF THE SKIN:

Regular pathology seminars and lectures are held, and teaching includes: pattern recognition, artefacts, principles of pathological diagnosis, inflammatory changes in the skin, the range of epidermal reactions, benign tumours, malignant tumours, reticuloses, metabolic and degenerative disorders, bullous disorders.

### PHOTOBIOLOGY:

This topic is taught through a series of demonstrations of the determination of minimal erythema dose and use of PUVA apparatus, and a series of lectures which include the following topics: principles, skin disorders caused by or aggravated by light exposure, investigation of patients with photodermatoses, photochemotherapy and phototherapy, protection from sun.



## PRINCIPLES OF TREATMENT OF SKIN DISEASE & PHARMACOLOGY OF THE SKIN:

This topic is taught through a series of lectures which covers: mediators of inflammation, anti-inflammatory agents, antimetabolic agents, immunomodulators, modulators of keratinization, symptomatic treatments, principles of treatment with topical and systemic applications, radiotherapy.

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC & PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES OF SKIN DISEASE:

Lectures on this topic cover: epidemiology of skin disease, the social and psychological consequences to the individual of persistent skin disease, the manifestations in the skin of psychiatric disease, economic cost to the community of skin disease.

## SURGICAL PRINCIPLES AND THE SKIN:

You will attend a short practical course on general surgical procedures which includes practical demonstrations



with hands-on sessions in relevant surgical techniques. You will also attend regular live surgery sessions narrated by a lecturer.

## TROPICAL DERMATOLOGY:

A series of lectures from visiting lecturers provide a basic grounding in tropical dermatology. Subjects covered include: leprosy, leishmaniasis, tropical fungal infections, tropical ulcer, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis.

## TESTIMONIALS

Dr Marisa Taylor, Jamaica

**“This is a well thought-out** course that covers all the key areas that a well-equipped Dermatologist should know, with a bevy of lectures and workshops delivered by text book authors and experts in



the field. The clinical rotations served to cement my Dermatology knowledge. During the course I had a rare opportunity to be a part of a multicultural group in a relaxed, supportive atmosphere that encouraged us to be more sensitive and knowledgeable world citizens. The best part of it is that I now have lots of international **friends! I highly recommend it.”**

Dr Musheera M Ali, India

**“This is a comprehensive** course delivered in a friendly and interactive learning environment. In my opinion, the excellent reputation of this course is attributed to the high standard of



teaching, state of the art facilities and supportive staff. The DCD programme was an enriching experience not only in the academic sense but also gave me an opportunity to meet interesting people from diverse backgrounds and make long lasting friends. This course has helped me immensely in advancing my understanding of dermatology. I have no hesitation in recommending it to all aspiring **dermatologists.”**

### About the Department:

The Department of Dermatology, Cardiff University, is a centre for dermatology research and teaching. An international team of tutors and lecturers and a team of administrators based in Cardiff are dedicated to running the courses and other educational activities.

The department has won numerous awards including BMA Clinical Teacher of the Year in and Outstanding ICT Initiative at the Times Higher Leadership and Management Awards.

In 2012 we are looking forward to celebrating 30 years of the Clinical Dermatology Course. Launched in 1982 with just 11 Students under the name Diploma in Dermatological Sciences (DDSc), the course now boasts almost 30 years of experience with over 500 graduates.

By continually adapting and adjusting for these changing times, our courses are more popular than ever. This course is recognised internationally as the must-have qualification for doctors wishing to specialise in dermatology.

### Contact Us:



[www.dermatology.org.uk](http://www.dermatology.org.uk)



[dermpostgrad@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:dermpostgrad@cardiff.ac.uk)



Tel: +44 (0) 29 2074 2247

+44 (0) 29 2074 4155

Fax: +44 (0) 29 2074 4312



Department of Dermatology  
Cardiff University

3rd Floor Glamorgan House  
Heath Park

Cardiff

CF14 4XN

Wales

UK



**DERMATOLOGY**