

**Medical Sciences Board****Approved:** 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015**Title of Programme:** Medicine (Pre-Clinical) – standard course**Title of Examination:** First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine (First BM)**Brief note about nature of change:** Alteration of regulations concerning applications for exceptional third attempts at the First BM Part I and Part II Examinations.**Effective date:** With immediate effect**Location of change:***Examination Regulations 2014-15:*<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/fbpiandii/administratorview/>

First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Parts I and II

**Details of change:**

1. In *Examination Regulations, 2014-15*,  
<http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2014-15/fbpiandii/administratorview/>  
First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Parts I and II, citation reference 1.18, amend the clause as follows:

'8. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination for Part II of the First Examination without first having passed all the subjects of Part I, save in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Medical Sciences Board following application from the candidate's society. ~~No candidate may offer any subject or Part of a subject in Parts I and II of the First Examination on more than two occasions, save in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Medical Sciences Board following application from the candidate's society.~~

2. Ibid., citation reference 1.19, insert a new clause 9 as follows:

'9. No candidate may offer any subject or Part of a subject in Parts I and II of the First Examination on more than two occasions, save in exceptional circumstances. A further exceptional opportunity to offer any subject or Part of a subject for Part I of the First Examination shall require application to and approval on behalf of the Education Committee of the University, in accordance with the *General Regulations for the First and Second Public Examinations*. A further exceptional opportunity to offer any subject or Part of a subject for Part II of the First Examination shall require application to and

approval on behalf of the Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board, according to the procedure set out in the handbook for medical students in Years 1-3.'

3. Ibid., re-number existing cl. 9-11 (citation references 1.19-1.21) as cl. 10-12 respectively.

### **Explanatory Notes**

Changes to the General Regulations for the First Public Examination have resulted in there being two options available to students who have failed their second attempt at the First BM Part I Examination. The coexistence of two different routes of appeal is confusing and could give rise to complaints from students; this requires redress as soon as possible. The Medical Sciences Board has agreed that the University's Education Committee should deal with applications for a third attempt at the First BM Part I, in common with other First Public Examinations.