

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by Nicholas Field on 21.02.22

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Clinical Medicine (Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine)

Brief note about nature of change: To re-instate the two modules of assessment within the Brain and Behaviour course block, namely 1. Clinical Neurosciences and 2. Psychiatry. This will provide students with the opportunity to attain Merits in both specialities.

Location of change

[In Examination Regulations 2021-22](#)

Effective date

For students starting in course Year 4, 5 and 6 of Second BM from MT 2022.

For first examination in 2022-23.

Detail of changes

Amend citation reference 1.48-57 and re-order alphabetical list as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

Year 5

Syllabus and Examination

^{1.48}In order to pass Year 5, candidates are required to have satisfactorily attended all courses and fulfilled individual course requirements, including completing all relevant formative assessments, for all the subjects specified in (a) to ~~(e)~~ (f) below; and to have satisfied the examiners in the Year 5 Integrated Summative Assessment, both written and clinical examinations.

^{1.49}No candidate may sit the Integrated Summative Assessment if they have not satisfactorily attended and fulfilled all of the individual course requirements in at least ~~four of the five~~ five of the six subjects specified in (a) to ~~(e)~~ (f) below, except in exceptional circumstances with the permission of the Director and Associate Director of Clinical Studies.

- 1.50 1. ~~(a) Brain and Behaviour; Clinical Neurosciences;~~
1.51 ~~(b) Community-based Medicine;~~
1.52 ~~(c) Orthopaedic Surgery, Rheumatology, Trauma and Emergency Medicine;~~
1.53 ~~(d) Paediatrics;~~
1.54 ~~(e) Women's and Reproductive Health. Psychiatry;~~
~~(f) -Women's and Reproductive Health.~~

1.55 2. Candidates are required to satisfy the examiners in the Integrated Summative Assessment.

1.56 The written and clinical examinations will each assess the subjects specified in (a) to ~~(e)~~ (f) above, and each candidate will be assessed according to the methods approved by the Medical Sciences Board and notified to candidates before the commencement of each course of instruction.

1.57 No candidate shall commence Year 6 until he or she has satisfactorily completed Year 5, unless the Director of Clinical Studies and the Associate Director of Clinical Studies at their discretion should, in exceptional circumstances, decide that the candidate may proceed to Year 6 on condition that he or she should undertake remedial work and if necessary be reassessed at a later date.

Explanatory Notes

This change reverses a previous amendment to the Regs in Year 5 of the Second BM.

The Brain and Behaviour block in year 5 was conceived as a means of integrating two related yet contrasting specialties and embracing an experiential spiral curriculum. It was intended to maximize the complementarity between neurology and psychiatry while recognising their differences.

However, the merger to become a single module of assessment was an unintended consequence of these changes in course delivery. This resulted in the 14-week Brain and Behaviour block having equal weight to each of the other 7-week blocks in year 5. This in turn meant that a student could fail to meet requirements for a third of the year 5 course and yet still progress to sit the end of year synoptic exam. It has also meant that Merits in psychiatry and neurology are no longer awarded, something that is detrimental to those students wishing to pursue careers in these specialties.