

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved by MSD divisional officer on 25th February 2025****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation [if general]**

Honour School of Cell and Systems Biology and Honour School of Neuroscience

Brief note about nature of change: Minor clarification of permissible marking pairs**Location of change**In *Examination Regulations* [[2023-24, Honour School of Cell and Systems Biology and Honour School of Neuroscience](#)]**Effective date****For students starting from MT 2021 [And]****For first examination from 2022-23 (for FHS Part A)****Detail of change**

Amend citation reference [1.57] as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

Each candidate shall make a brief oral presentation of their project to a group of ~~two~~ examiners ~~(or examiners and assessors appointed to ensure an adequate representation of expertise)~~, two markers selected from a panel of examiners and assessors and shall be expected to answer questions on the project. A moderator may also attend the presentation.

Explanatory Notes

The regulations for the new integrated Masters included a stipulation that assessors could mark as a pair but to avoid confusion, we want to update the wording so it is clear as possible.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by MSD divisional officer on 15 May 2025

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Master of Science by Coursework in Clinical Trials

Brief note about nature of change:

Minor amendment to assessment title

Clarification of summative assessments

Location of change

In Examination Regulations

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=moscbsiclintria&srchYear=2024&srchTerm=1&year=2024&term=1>

Effective date

For students starting from MT2025 [And]

For first examination from 2025-26

Detail of change

Amend citation reference 1.9-1.15 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

(ii) completion ~~submission~~ of ~~three~~ five summative assessments as follows:

a) A ~~report~~ critical appraisal ~~of not more than 2,500 words~~ to be submitted online via the approved submission system before the start of Trinity Term in Year 1.

b) An examination to be held in the Long Vacation of Year 1.

~~b) c)~~ c) An essay ~~of not more than 2,500 words~~ to be submitted online via the approved submission system in Hilary term in Year 2.

~~e) d) A recorded PowerPoint presentation of no more than 10 minutes to be submitted online via the approved submission system at the end of Trinity term in Year 2.~~

e) A dissertation on a topic selected by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor and approved by the Organising Committee. Approval must be sought no later than the end of Michaelmas term in the academic year of submission. The dissertation must be submitted online via the approved submission system, after the end of Trinity term in Year 2 on a date to be specified in the course handbook.

~~(iii) Submission of a dissertation of not more than 10,000 words, comprising a research proposal in the style of a grant application for a randomized trial, and to include a systematic review of previous evidence, on a topic selected by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor and approved by the Organising Committee. Approval must be sought no later than the end of Michaelmas term in the academic year of submission. The dissertation must be submitted online via the approved submission system, after the end of Trinity term in Year 2 on a date to be specified in the course handbook;~~

~~(iiiv) Attendance at at least one Residential School following at least 3 terms of study.~~

~~(v) An examination to be held in the Long Vacation of Year 1.~~

Explanatory Notes

The content of the first summative assessment has not changed, but 'critical appraisal' is a more accurate title for the assessment than 'report'.

The wording has also been updated to clarify that the existing exam and dissertation are summative assessments (previously they were listed separately to the three other summative assessments).

There has not been a consultation beyond the course team on these changes as there is no change to the content or nature of the assessments. The proposed changes simply provide a more accurate description of the existing assessments.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of University Education Committee 2nd July 2024

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Year 2 Examination in Graduate-entry Medicine

Brief note about nature of change

Updates to exam regulations following approval of the streamlining of assessment of Year 2 Graduate-entry Medicine students

Location of change

[2023-24, Year 2 Examination in Graduate-entry Medicine \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate/admissions/medicine/entry-requirements/graduate-entry-examination)

Effective date

For students starting the Graduate-entry Medicine programme from MT24 and for first examination from 2025-26.

Detail of change

Amend citation reference

[1.7] The examination will consist of ~~eight~~ **six** components. Candidates must offer all ~~eight~~ **six** assessment units at the first scheduled opportunity in one academic year.

Amend citation reference

[1.8] A candidate who has satisfied the Examiners in all ~~eight~~ **six** components will be deemed to have passed the Examination.

Delete citation references [1.20 - 1.29] inclusive:

[1.20] ~~3. Critical Appraisal~~

[1.21] ~~This paper will assess candidates' ability to critically appraise primary research material.~~

[1.22] ~~4. Submitted Essay on a Public Health topic~~

[1.23] ~~(i) Form and subject of the essay~~

[1.24] ~~Candidates will be required to submit an essay on a topic related to Public Health aspects of the diagnosis or management of a clinical case. The submitted essay shall be of not more than 3,000 words, excluding any tables, figures, diagrams or references. It must be in a format according to guidelines approved on behalf of the Graduate-entry Education Committee and published on the virtual learning environment.~~

[1.25] ~~The essay must refer to aspects of Public Health from a list included in the published guidelines.~~

[1.26] ~~(ii) Authorship~~

[1.27] ~~The essay must be the candidate's own work. Candidates' tutors, or their deputies nominated to act as advisors, may discuss with candidates the proposed field of study, the sources available, and the method of treatment, but on no account may they read or comment on any written draft. Every candidate shall submit a certificate to the effect that this rule has been observed and that the essay is their own work. The certificate should be submitted alongside the essay.~~

[1.28] ~~(iii) Submission~~

[1.29] ~~The essay must be submitted via the University approved online assessment platform (according to the instructions set out in the notification to candidates from the Chair of Examiners) not later than noon on the Tuesday of Week 1 of Trinity Term.~~

Amend citation reference numbering below:

[1.30] ~~5.~~ 3. *Academic special interest project work*

[1.44] ~~6.~~ 4. *Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)*

[1.46] ~~7.~~ 5. *Laboratory Medicine*

[1.48] ~~8.~~ 6. *Clinical placements*

Explanatory Notes

A streamlining of Yr 2 Graduate-entry Medicine assessments has been undertaken to eliminate duplication of examination on the same topics elsewhere in the programme.

These changes have been approved for incoming students with effect from 2024-25 and for first examination from 2025-26.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 19th July 2024

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Master of Science by Coursework in International Health and Tropical Medicine

Brief note about nature of change: Integration of the optional module Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health into the Change in International Health module taught as part of the compulsory curriculum, and assessment clarifications.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-2024* [2023-24, Master of Science by Coursework in International Health and Tropical Medicine \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Effective date

For students starting from MT2024

And

For first examination from 2024-25

Detail of Change

Amend clause 4 of the regulations:

4. Candidates will be examined in all of the following ways:
 - (i) ~~A Two~~ written examination papers relating to the Paradigms and Tools for Global Health module.
 - (ii) An examination in the form of a 2,000-2,500 word piece of written work, to be completed within 48 hours of receipt of the examination questions, relating to Challenges and Change in International Health, and Global Health Research and Practice.
 - (iii) For all options, of which candidates must take two: a 3,000-4,000-word submission (excluding bibliography, references, tables and figures). The topic of the submission must be selected from a choice of titles approved by the ~~Organising Committee~~ Examination Board and based on the optional modules studied as set out in the Schedule.

- (iv) A type-written dissertation of not more than 10,000 words (excluding references, tables, figures, bibliography and appendices) on the research project as set out in the Schedule below. The research project and the subject of the dissertation must have been approved by the Organising Placement Committee.

Amend the Schedule as follows:

B. Options

1. Vaccinology
2. ~~Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health~~
3. International Development and Health
4. Development, Environment and Health
5. Health Innovation and Entrepreneurship
6. Introduction to Mathematical Modelling for Infectious Diseases

Explanatory Notes

Rationale for the above changes are given below:

Removal of an optional module

In the existing MSc IHTM curriculum, teaching on Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) topics is organised in two separate modules, i.e. Challenge and Change in International Health (CCIH) and the RMNCAH option module.

We propose to create one comprehensive Life Course Module as part of the CCIH module. In this module, we aim to integrate all stages of the life course, i.e. existing RMNCAH topics, as well as old age/aging (so far not included in the MSc IHTM curriculum). This module would be delivered in Michaelmas Term as a week block of approximately 5 x 7 hrs of teaching, and a requirement for all MSc IHTM students (no longer an option module).

We propose this change to the existing curriculum for the following reasons:

- There is a need to teach ALL students about the challenges and opportunities for RMNCAH, using the life course and continuum of care as overarching frameworks. RMNCAH challenges are particularly complex in low resource settings and necessitate a multisectoral/systems approach.
- A well-planned Life Course week can avoid repetition and overlap of teaching content, improve efficiency, and free up teaching time for new emerging topics in global health.

Clarification of assessment for the Paradigms and Tools for Global Health

This change is a clarification that this module comprises of two parts, Paper 1A and Paper 1B.

Clarification to assessment requirements

This change clarifies that candidates are expected to complete two optional modules. The above changes also incorporate clarifications for approval of submission topic titles and dissertations.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved by the Educational Policy and Standards Committee on 13 June 2025****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation [if general]**

Master of Science by Coursework in International Health and Tropical Medicine

Brief note about nature of change: Addition of new option module**Location of change**In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Master of Science by Coursework in International Health and Tropical Medicine](#) Addition to be between citation 1.24 and 1.25.**Effective date****For students starting from MT 2025 and****For first examination from 2025-26****Detail of change**Add module Pandemic Sciences, under Schedule, B, Options to make it the 6th option module as below.

- **Schedule**

- A. *Core Modules*

- 1. Paradigms and Tools for Global Health
 - 2. Challenges and Change in International Health
 - 3. Global Health Research and Practice

- B. *Options*

- 1. Vaccinology
 - 2. International Development and Health
 - 3. Development, Environment and Health
 - 4. Health Innovation and Entrepreneurship

- 5. Introduction to Mathematical Modelling for Infectious Diseases
- 6. Pandemic Sciences

Explanatory Notes

We are introducing a new (6th) option module- Pandemic Sciences.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of Education Committee 3rd October 2024

Research Degrees in the Medical Sciences Division

Brief note about nature of change: amendments to numbers of part-time research programmes, and removal of pre-2009 information regarding integrated theses.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2024-25* [2023-24, Research Degrees in the Medical Sciences Division \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Effective date

For students starting from MT24.

Detail of change

Amend citations as follows:

[1.3] *Special provisions for part-time students*

[1.4] In assessing applications from candidates seeking to undertake a research degree through part-time study in Clinical Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, Clinical Medicine, Clinical Neurosciences, Experimental Psychology, Medical Sciences, Molecular and Cellular Medicine, Musculoskeletal Sciences, Oncology, Population Health, Psychiatry, Primary Care Health Sciences, Psychiatry, Translational Health Sciences, and Women's and Reproductive Health, the responsible admitting body shall have regard to evidence that:

7. THESES

[1.39] ~~For students admitted prior to 1 October 2009.~~

[1.40] ~~A set of scientific papers that concern a common subject may exceptionally constitute an acceptable thesis, but only if with the addition of an introduction, general discussion, and general conclusion they constitute a continuous theme. Joint papers may not be included unless the supervisor certifies the extent of the candidate's own contribution. Joint papers may be included as appendices in a thesis. Approval to submit~~

~~a thesis using this format should be sought from the divisional board (via the Chair, Medical Sciences Graduate School Committee, c/o Medical Sciences Office, Level 3 John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford OX3 9DU) as soon as possible after admission and not later than the date at which the appointment of examiners is requested.~~

The length and scope of theses in each subject area in the Division is set out in the Graduate School Canvas site <https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/22105>. This webpage also provides advice as to how, in exceptional circumstances, permission can be sought from the Board to exceed these word limits.

~~[1.41] Candidates with some published work may also include that as part of a traditional thesis, normally as an appendix.~~

~~[1.42] The length and scope of theses in each subject area in the Division is set out in the Graduate School Canvas site <https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/22105>.~~

Explanatory Notes

The above changes reflect the increase in the number of research programmes the division offers part-time (previously approved). There is also a re-ordering to ensure Psychiatry is in the right place in the list alphabetically.

The pre-2009 information regarding integrated theses is now unnecessary, as a student would need to have both started before MT 2009 and want to submit an integrated thesis (if truly exceptionally this occurred now, reference would be made to Regs from when a student started). The addition of guidance about page lengths and how to apply for an extension is more useful for inclusion in this section.

Medical Sciences Board

**Course approved on behalf of Education Committee 30th November 2023;
Regulations approved 23rd February 2024**

Title of programme

Degree of Doctor of Medicine

Brief note about nature of change: Introduction of a new variable-intensity Doctor of Medicine degree for locally employed clinicians, which is equivalent to the standards expected for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Location of change in Examination Regulations

In Examination Regulations <https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/>

New course exam regulations to be published.

Effective date

For students starting from 2023/2024 academic year

Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine

§1. Degree of Doctor of Medicine

1. Any person who has been admitted to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine by the Medical Sciences Board (hereafter 'the Board') and who has satisfied the conditions prescribed by these regulations may supplicate for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine.
2. The Board has the power to remove temporarily or permanently the name of a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine from the Register of Students. This power shall include cases where a student has been found guilty of gross misconduct by their employer or where a student no longer holds full registration with the UK General Medical Council or otherwise where a student's fitness to practise medicine is in question.

3. Students for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine shall be regarded as part-time students within the regulations and shall not be required to keep statutory residence, but must attend in Oxford for such instruction as the Board shall require.
4. Students for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine who are not graduates of the University may wear a long gown of black stuff, whose shape and ornaments shall be in accordance with a pattern approved by the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors and preserved in the University Offices, Wellington Square.
5. The provisions of the General Regulations Governing Research Degrees (§3, §5, §6 and §7) regarding the supervision of Probationer Research Students, suspension and removal of graduate students from the Register of Students, reinstatement to the Register of Students, students with disabilities and appeals, and the examination of Graduate Research Students, shall apply, provided that, in all cases, 'Doctor of Medicine' shall be substituted for 'Doctor of Philosophy'.
6. The provisions of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (§5) regarding the supervision of Students for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy shall apply, provided that, in all cases, 'Doctor of Medicine' shall be substituted for 'Doctor of Philosophy'.

§2. Admission of Candidates

1. Any person intending to work for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine must apply in the first instance for admission as a Probationer Research Student, except as provided in the appropriate regulation. The Board may admit any person as a Probationer Research Student provided that the Board is satisfied:
 - (i) that the candidate has achieved a medical degree,
 - (ii) that the candidate holds full registration with the UK General Medical Council,
 - (iii) that the candidate holds a contract of employment at Specialty Trainee grade 1 or above with the University of Oxford, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, or another organisational unit of the NHS approved by the Board for this purpose, or in a Primary Care setting within Oxfordshire,
 - (iv) that the candidate is well-fitted and well-qualified to conduct work for a research degree,
 - (v) that the branch of study proposed by the candidate is one which may profitably be pursued under the Board,
 - (vi) that supervision will be available, and
 - (vii) that the department under whose aegis the research is to be conducted has adequate facilities to enable the research to be undertaken.
2. Applications for admission shall be forwarded to the Registrar, according to such timetables as the Education Committee shall determine. The Registrar shall be responsible for transmitting the candidate's application to the Board, together with such evidence of their fitness to undertake the proposed study as may be required by the Board. All applications shall be accompanied by:

- (i) a completed online application form;
 - (ii) a statement of not more than 1,500 words outlining the proposed scope of the research to be undertaken, which should be in synergy with the candidate's clinical practice, and a provisional thesis title;
- 3. The Board shall determine for each candidate appropriate timescales for transfer to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine, confirmation of status, and submission for examination, after due consideration of their clinical responsibilities.
- 4. Upon application for admission to the status of Probationer Research Student the candidate may request that work undertaken in collaboration with the proposed DM supervisor normally not more than 12 months prior to admission to the status of Probationer Research Student be recognised as part of their work towards the Degree of Doctor of Medicine. The Board shall assess such prior work to consider whether it is substantially pertinent to, and coherent with, the student's proposed DM study, and determine whether the timescales for transfer to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine, confirmation of status, and submission for examination should be shortened. The Board may appoint independent assessors for this purpose.
- 5. Candidates may in exceptional circumstances apply for permission to work for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine with the intention of submitting as their thesis a series of linked papers (thesis by publication) in accordance with §7, cl. 5 of these regulations. The Board shall admit such a candidate directly to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine provided that, in addition to meeting the conditions of suitability set out in cl. 1 of this section, the Board is satisfied:
 - (i) that the proposed works to be included in the thesis are of sufficient quality,
 - (ii) that the candidate is of sufficient academic standing.
- 6. Candidates proposing to submit a thesis by publication shall additionally provide a list of the works proposed to be included, details of their publication, and a statement on whether any part of the work to be submitted has previously been accepted for a degree in this University or elsewhere. A candidate who submits work that has been produced in collaboration shall state in respect of each item the extent of their own contribution. This statement must be certified by each of the senior and primary authors (where they are not the candidate) in the case of each piece of collaborative work submitted. The Board may appoint independent assessors to provide a report on the quality of the work.
- 7. Where permission is granted for submission of a thesis by publication, the Board may shorten the timescales for confirmation of status and submission for examination.
- 8. No person shall be admitted as a Probationer Research Student (or, in the case of candidates permitted to submit a thesis by publication, to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine) unless they are also a member of a college, and unless the application for admission has the approval of their college. The Registrar shall forward the application to the candidate's college or to the college to which the candidate wishes to apply for membership, as appropriate; and admission by the Board shall be conditional upon admission by a college.

9. It shall be the duty of the Registrar to keep a Register of those admitted to the status of Probationer Research Student and to the status of Student for the Doctor of Medicine.
10. The Board may grant a student suspension from the Register up to a maximum of six terms following procedures determined by the Education Committee by regulation.
11. The Board may deprive a student of their status following procedures determined by the Education Committee by regulation.
12. Exceptionally, it shall be open to a candidate whose name has been removed from the Register of Students to apply to the Board for reinstatement to the Register as a Probationer Research Student. The application should have the support of their college and supervisor, and such reinstatement fee as may from time to time be prescribed by Council should be paid. Permission for reinstatement to the Register of Students may be granted by the Board provided that:
 - (i) the candidate holds full registration with the UK General Medical Council;
 - (ii) typically, the candidate holds a contract of employment at Specialty Trainee grade 1 or above with the University of Oxford, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, or another organisational unit of the NHS approved by the Board for this purpose, or in a Primary Care setting within Oxfordshire;
 - (iii) no more than twenty-four months have passed since the student's name was removed from the Register; and
 - (iv) the number of terms the candidate spent with the status of a Probationer Research Student did not exceed ten terms.
13. It shall be open to a candidate whose name has been removed from the Register of Students to apply to the Board for reinstatement as a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine. The application should have the support of their college and supervisor, and such reinstatement fee as may from time to time be prescribed by Council should be paid. Permission for reinstatement to the Register of Students may be granted by the Board provided that:
 - (i) the candidate holds full registration with the UK General Medical Council;
 - (ii) typically, the candidate holds a contract of employment at Specialty Trainee grade 1 or above with the University of Oxford, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, or another organisational unit of the NHS approved by the Board for this purpose, or in a Primary Care setting within Oxfordshire,
 - (iii) no more than twenty-four months have passed since the student's name was removed from the Register; and
 - (iv) the number of terms the candidate spent with the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine did not exceed twenty-seven terms (this limit includes any time spent with the status of Probationer Research Student before admission to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine), or twelve terms in the case of a candidate permitted to submit a thesis by publication.

14. In exceptional circumstances, a candidate who is not able to apply for reinstatement within the provisions above may make an application to Council's Education Committee for reinstatement to the Register of Students as a Probationer Research Student or as a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine as appropriate. Such candidates must meet the requirements for reinstatement by the Board and in addition must provide a statement explaining why it is reasonable for the Education Committee to permit their reinstatement and outlining the circumstances that have prevented an earlier application for reinstatement. For such applications, the Education Committee will consider the length of time since the candidate's name was on the Register of Students, the seriousness of the causes for the delay, and the views of the student's department, supervisor and college.

§3. Requirements of Probationer Research Students

1. Students holding the status of Probationer Research Student shall be required to pursue their course of study for a minimum of four terms, and a maximum of eight terms, prior to an application for transfer of status, save where prior work has been recognised by the Board as part of the work for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine, in which cases the minimum shall be one term. No student may apply to the Board for the appointment of examiners unless their supervisor has certified that the student has fulfilled the requirements laid down by the Board.
2. Any student may, with the permission of the Board, alter the subject of research approved by the Board, provided that the conditions of suitability set out in §2. cl. 1 of these regulations continue to be met. In such cases the date of the student's admission for all the purposes of this section shall remain unchanged, unless the Board shall determine otherwise.
3. A student may hold the status of Probationer Research Student for up to eight terms, including the term in which they were admitted.
4. A candidate whose first application for transfer to DM status is not approved shall be permitted to make one further application and shall be granted an extension of time for one term if this is necessary for the purposes of making the application.
5. Subject to the approval of the student's college and the Board, and for good cause, a student may be permitted to hold the status of Probationer Research Student (prior to the first application for transfer of status) for a further one to four terms. A first application for transfer of status must have been submitted and assessed within the twelve-term limit of PRS status. Any application outside those limits (other than in cl. 4 above) must be approved by or on behalf of Education Committee.
6. A Probationer Research Student shall cease to hold such status if:
 - (i) (a) they have not gained admission to another status within eight terms of admission to the status of Probationer Research Student, and
(b) they have not been given approval under cl. 5 above to hold Probationer Research Student status for a further one to four terms;
 - (ii) they have failed to gain admission to DM status after the two transfer applications allowed under cl. 4 above;

- (iii) the Board shall in accordance with the provisions set down in the General Regulations Governing Research Degrees §5, and after consultation with the student's college and supervisor, have deprived the student of such status;
- (iv) the Board shall in accordance with §1. cl. 2 of these regulations remove the student's name from the Register of Students.

§4. Admission to the Status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine

1. The following may be admitted to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine:
 - (i) a member of the University who, having held the status of Probationer Research Student under the provisions of these regulations, has successfully completed the relevant qualifying test for admission to DM status prescribed in clauses 6 to 14 of this section;
 - (ii) a candidate permitted to submit a thesis by publication under §2. cl. 5 of these regulations.
2. Candidates qualified under cl. 1 (i) of this section may apply for admission as Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine to the Board through the Registrar. Such applications shall be accompanied by:
 - (i) a statement from the supervisor containing their view of the proposed subject for a thesis and of the readiness of the candidate to undertake advanced research. A supervisor may delay an early application in the interests of the student, but must enable students to apply for their assessment within the prescribed time limits;
 - (ii) a statement of support for the application from the candidate's college;
 - (iii) a statement of the subject of the proposed thesis and details of the manner in which the candidate proposes to treat it;
 - (iv) a statement confirming that the student has successfully completed any required research integrity training;
 - (v) a completed Training Needs Analysis detailing the skills training that they have undertaken and planned;
 - (vi) a report of no more than 5,000 words which should include an abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, any appendices, and future plans including a proposed timetable for completion. This is a maximum word limit, exclusive of tables and references. Candidates will not be penalised for submitting reports of shorter length, so long as they include sufficient material to merit admission. However, if the maximum word limit is exceeded the report may be returned to the candidate for amendment.
3. Applications shall be assessed by two assessors appointed by the Board, neither of whom shall normally be the candidate's supervisor. The process of assessment must always include an interview with the applicant. Upon completion of their assessment of the candidate's work, the assessors shall make a recommendation as to whether the application for transfer to DM status

should be granted. In each case the assessors shall make a reasoned written report to the Board in support of their recommendation.

4. The Board shall consider the candidate's application together with the material supplied in accordance with clauses 2 and 3 above. No application for transfer shall be granted unless the assessors shall have certified and the Board is satisfied that the candidate is capable of carrying out advanced research, and that the subject of the thesis and the manner of its treatment proposed by the candidate are acceptable; and unless the department under whose aegis the research is to be conducted has adequate facilities to enable the research to be undertaken.
5. Subject to the approval of the Education Committee, the Board shall have power to determine by regulation what other test or condition, if any, it may require before approving admission to DM status. The Board shall be empowered, without further authority, to require from the supervisor any further confidential report on an applicant's suitability to pursue research towards the DM.
6. It shall be the duty of the Registrar to submit any application made under these provisions to the Board, and to inform the candidate of the outcome as soon as may be.
7. A candidate whose first application for transfer to DM status is not approved shall be permitted to make one further application, following the procedures laid down in clauses 2-6 above, and shall be granted an extension of time of one term if this is necessary for the purposes of making the application.
8. An applicant who transfers to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine shall be reckoned as having held that status from the time they were admitted to their previous status unless the Board shall determine otherwise.
9. The interview required under cl. 3 of this section shall be held in Oxford in a suitable university or college building, unless the Board gives special permission for it to be held at some other place. Such permission shall only be granted where the applicant and both the assessors have agreed in writing to the proposed arrangements.
10. Application may be made to the Board for special permission to hold the interview required under cl. 3 of this section using audiovisual electronic communication. Special permission may be granted for any or all of the applicant and assessors to take part in the interview using audiovisual electronic communication. The Board may approve the application where:
 - (i) the proposed arrangements are acceptable to both assessors and to the applicant, all of whom have agreed to them in writing;
 - (ii) it is content to bear any additional costs of the necessary arrangements;
 - (iii) the interview takes place according to the protocol approved by the Education Committee;
 - (iv) in the event of any technical or other problems, the validity of the process used to conduct the interview and to determine the outcome will be decided by the Proctors.

§5. Confirmation of Status as a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine

1. A candidate who has been admitted to the status of Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine must, not later than the eighteenth term or normally earlier than the sixth term after that in which they were initially admitted to the status of a Probationer Research Student, or the eighth and fourth terms respectively in the case of a candidate permitted to submit a thesis by publication, complete the assessment process prescribed by the Board for confirmation of their status as a DM Student. The Board may, for good reason, and with the support of the student's college, permit a candidate to defer for a maximum of three terms their application for confirmation of status. All Students for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine must have their status confirmed before making an application for the appointment of examiners. The Board strongly advises candidates to apply for confirmation of status a minimum of one term before they intend to submit their thesis.
2. Candidates applying for confirmation of their status shall submit their application to the Board, through the Registrar; and such applications shall be accompanied by:
 - (i) a statement from the supervisor containing their view of the candidate's progress towards confirmation of status. A supervisor may delay an early application in the interests of the student, but must enable students to apply for their assessment within the prescribed time limits;
 - (ii) a statement of support for the application from the candidate's college;
 - (iii) a statement confirming that the student has successfully completed any required research integrity training;
 - (iv) a completed Training Needs Analysis detailing the skills training that the student has undertaken;
 - (v) a full contents list for the thesis, including the milestones of any remaining work to be undertaken, and dates for the submission of draft chapters to the supervisor(s) for comment (or, in the case of a candidate permitted to submit a thesis by publication, a report of no more than 2,500 words on the work undertaken since registration, including a comprehensive outline of the research topic, details of progress made, and the anticipated timetable for submission of the thesis).
3. The Board shall, subject to the approval of the Education Committee, determine by regulation any other conditions which a student must fulfil before their status may be confirmed. The process of assessment must always include an interview with the candidate. Candidates shall be required to deliver a formal, oral presentation of their work. The presentation will be attended by two assessors who are deemed to have the appropriate expertise to comment on the content of the project. The assessors will be appointed by the candidate's department; neither assessor will have had direct supervisory involvement with the student. Following the presentation, the assessors will conduct an interview with the candidate.
4. The assessors will report to the Board on the candidate's suitability for confirmation of DM status. This report will be based on the information provided by the candidate in accordance with cl. 2 above in conjunction with their presentation and interview. In cases where confirmation of status is not recommended the assessors will attach a short written report detailing where the work submitted falls below the standard required.

5. A candidate whose first application for confirmation of their status is not approved shall be permitted to make one further application following the procedures laid down in this section normally within one term of the original application, and shall be granted an extension of time for one term if this is necessary for the purposes of making the application.
6. A Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine shall cease to hold such status unless it has been confirmed within eighteen terms of their admission to that status or within a maximum of twenty-one terms where deferral has been approved in accordance with cl. 1 of this section, or within eight and eleven terms respectively in the case of a candidate permitted to submit a thesis by publication.
7. The interview required under cl. 3 of this section shall be held in Oxford in a suitable university or college building, unless the Board gives special permission for it to be held at some other place. Such permission shall only be granted where the candidate and the assessors have agreed in writing to the proposed arrangements.
8. Application may be made to the Board for special permission to hold the interview required under cl. 3 of this section using audiovisual electronic communication. Special permission may be granted for any or all of the candidate and assessors to take part in the interview using audiovisual electronic communication. The Board may approve the application where:
 - (i) the proposed arrangements are acceptable to the assessors and to the candidate, all of whom have agreed to them in writing;
 - (ii) it is content to bear any additional costs of the necessary arrangements;
 - (iii) the interview takes place according to the protocol approved by the Education Committee;
 - (iv) in the event of any technical or other problems, the validity of the process used to conduct the interview and to determine the outcome will be decided by the Proctors.

§6. Requirements for Students for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine

1. A Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine shall be required to pursue their course of study for a minimum of six terms, save where prior work has been recognised by the Board as part of the work for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine in accordance with §2, cl. 4 of these regulations, in which cases the minimum shall be three terms. No student may apply to Board for the appointment of examiners unless their supervisor has certified that the student has fulfilled the requirements for laid down by the Board.
2. If a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine has held that status for twenty-four terms, or nine terms in the case of a candidate permitted to submit a thesis by publication, but has been prevented by exceptional circumstances from completing their thesis, the Board shall have power to grant an extension of time for a period or periods, not exceeding three terms in all. Applications for such extension of time shall be made through the Registrar not later than the term in which the student is due to apply for permission to supplicate.
3. A Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine shall cease to hold that status if:
 - (i) they have been refused permission to supplicate for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine; or

- (ii) the Board shall in accordance with §1, cl. 2 or cl. 5 of these regulations have deprived the student of such status; or
- (iii) they have been transferred under the relevant provisions to another status; or
- (iv) they have failed to submit their thesis within twenty-four terms or within such further extension of time as may have been granted by the Board.

§7. Examination of Students for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine

1. A Student for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine who has fulfilled the requirements set out in §6 of these regulations and whose status has not expired may apply to the Board for the appointment of examiners and for leave to supplicate for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine.
2. Such applications should be made to the Board through the Registrar. They shall include:
 - (i) a certificate from the supervisor that the student has pursued their course of study in accordance with the provisions of §6 of these regulations;
 - (ii) a statement by the candidate of what part, if any, of the thesis has already been accepted, or is concurrently being submitted, for any degree or diploma or certificate or other qualification in this University or elsewhere;
 - (iii) a statement by the candidate that the thesis is their own work, except where otherwise indicated.
3. The supervisor shall consult with the candidate concerning possible examiners, and forward to the board the names of suggested examiners together with details of any special considerations which the candidate wishes to make known about any potential examiners.
4. The provisions of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (§7, clauses 4-13) regarding the examination of Students for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy shall apply, provided that, in all cases, 'Doctor of Medicine' shall be substituted for 'Doctor of Philosophy'. In addition to the criteria enumerated in §7, cl. 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, examiners for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine must also include in their report a statement that:
 - (i) the thesis embodies original observations on either clinical or experimental material.
5. A candidate who has been granted permission by the Board to submit a thesis by publication may submit for examination a thesis comprised of a series of linked papers published at least twelve months before the date of submission. Submission of published works as a thesis in this manner shall be permitted only when there is evidence of outstanding quality and a substantial body of original research in the scientific papers intended for submission. A thesis by publication must conform to the following:
 - (i) papers should relate directly to the candidate's approved field of study;

- (ii) papers must be accompanied by a general introduction and a general conclusion and the thesis must form a continuous theme;
 - (iii) all matters of copyright must be addressed before a paper's inclusion;
 - (iv) multi-authored papers are acceptable if the candidate can both defend the paper in full and provide a statement of authorship, agreed by all authors, that certifies the extent of the candidate's own contribution. It is expected that the candidate will be a lead contributor, rather than a minor author, on at least some of the papers;
 - (v) there is no minimum, or maximum, number of papers that may be included and it will remain a matter for the examiners to conclude whether the contributions are equivalent to that which would be expected of a standard thesis by research.
6. The word limit for theses submitted for the Doctor of Medicine is 50,000 words. In exceptional circumstance, permission to exceed this limit may be requested from the Medical Sciences Board.

Explanatory Notes

Following the University review of Higher Degrees, it was agreed that the then Doctor of Medicine be removed as a Higher Degree and referred to the Medical Sciences Division to determine its future. A completely revised Doctor of Medicine degree was developed and approved, as a flexible, variable-intensity doctoral-level programme, open to applications from medically qualified candidates registered with the UK General Medical Council, and holding a contract of employment at ST1 level or above with the NHS or a Primary Care setting geographically close to or within Oxfordshire. In furtherance of an important strategic priority for the Medical Sciences Division, the new DM will open up opportunities in support of clinical academic careers.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by the Educational Policy and Standards Committee on 13th June 2025

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine

Brief note about nature of change

Amendments to clarify existing practice and to re-title the 'Clinical Options' assessment unit.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2024-25*: [2024-25, Second BM \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Effective date

These changes are for students who started the Second BM in 2023-24 and who enter year 6/Graduate entry year 4 in 2025-26.

Detail of change (new text underlined, deleted text struck through)

Amend **citation 1.54-60**:

Year 6 / Graduate Entry Year 4

^{1.54} Students who fail an assessment may have to forfeit part or all of the elective for a period of intensive clinical training.

^{1.55} 1. General Clinical Studies

^{1.56} There will be two examinations:

^{1.57} (a) Applied Knowledge Test (AKT) consisting of multiple choice questions.

^{1.58} (b) An Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE).

^{1.59} Candidates must satisfy the Director of Clinical Studies and the relevant Associate Director of Clinical Studies that they have attended a course of instruction in:

(a) Clinical Options Specialties.

(b) Medicine.

(c) Surgery.

^{1.60}**2. Vocational Skills**

Explanatory Notes

- Amendment to clarify existing practice. Students are required to complete units of assessment in Medicine and in Surgery.
- To re-title 'Clinical Options' to 'Clinical Specialties', to better reflect the content of this course component. The amendment will provide consistency between the exam regulations and the current exam conventions and units of assessment as reported on the Academic Records Office on the Year 6 Results List.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of MSD Educational Policy and Standards Committee on 21st June 2024

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine

Brief note about nature of change

Removal of eligibility requirement for Year 5 Integrative Summative Assessment and a correction to omission

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-24*: [2023-24, Second BM \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Effective date

These changes are for students who started the Second BM in 2023-24 and who enter year 5/Graduate entry year 3 in 2024-25.

Detail of change (new text underlined, deleted text struck through)

Amend **citation 1.37**:

^{1.37}In order to pass Year 5 / Graduate-entry Year 3, 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 (f) below; and to have satisfied the examiners in the Year 5 / Graduate-entry Year 3 Integrated Summative Assessment, both written and clinical examinations.

Delete **citation 1.38**:

^{1.38}~~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 five of the six subjects specified in (a) to (f) below, except in exceptional circumstances with the permission of the Director and the relevant Associate Director of Clinical Studies.~~

Explanatory Notes

Given that the six subjects and the summative assessment are classified as separate assessment units, the removal of eligibility requirement is to ensure their independence. The link between course requirements and eligibility to enter the summative assessment is considered to add little value as the regulations already state that all units of assessment have to be passed to progress to the final year. Furthermore, operationalising this regulation has proved challenging due to the very short time window between completing the subjects and the summative assessment.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved by Education Committee in November 2023****First and Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine****Brief note about nature of change**

Removal of the requirement for Qualifying Examination in the Principles of Clinical Anatomy for medical students who have passed the First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine and who are seeking to progress to the clinical stage of the standard 6-year Medicine course (Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine).

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2024-25*: [2024-25, Second BM \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Effective date

These changes are for students who will start the Second BM in 2026-27.

Detail of changes (new text underlined, deleted text struck through)**1. Amend citation 1.1-2****Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine**

1.1 1. A candidate may be admitted to the Second Examination if their name has been entered on the University Register of Clinical Students and they have satisfied one of the following conditions:

1.2 (a) they have passed in all the subjects of the First Examination ~~and the Qualifying Examination in the Principles of Clinical Anatomy~~ and has either been admitted to the Degree of Bachelor of Arts with Honours or obtained a bachelor's degree at another university; or

Explanatory Notes

The Qualifying Examination in the Principles of Clinical Anatomy is being discontinued and the last sitting will be June 2025.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved on behalf of Education Committee 2nd December 2024****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine

Brief note about nature of change: changes to exam regulations to clarify how students will meet GMC requirements with regards to the Medical Licensing Assessment, and which also include the transitional arrangements guidance issued by the GMC.

Location of changeIn *Examination Regulations 2022-23* [[2022-23, Second BM](#)]**Effective date**

These changes are for students who started the Second BM in 2022-23 only.

Detail of change**Insert new text as follows:**

4. Parts of the assessment in Years 5 and 6 will comprise the Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA) which is required by the General Medical Council to test the core knowledge, skills and behaviours of doctors new to medical practice in the UK. The two parts of the MLA are:

(a) Clinical and Professional Skills Assessment (CPSA). The clinical examination in Year 5 and the clinical examination in Year 6 together make up the CPSA.

(b) Applied Knowledge Test (AKT): this is the Applied Knowledge Test in Year 6, which is a nationally-constructed, university-delivered examination, which has a common format, test standard, delivery process and policy framework. The MLA Board acts as the main oversight and governance group responsible for all elements of the UK MLA AKT.

5. To meet the GMC's expectations around outcomes and standards, the MLA must be completed within 49 months. The start point is 1 June of the year a student is due to take Year 5 / Graduate Entry 3 Integrated Summative Clinical Examination (OSCE). Students

who are unable to pass all the assessments required for the MLA within this period will be required to complete remedial assessment, the exact nature of which will depend on student circumstances and will be agreed in discussion with the Director for Clinical Studies, Curriculum and Assessment lead for Year 5 / Graduate Entry Year 3 and Assessment lead for Year 6 / Graduate Entry Year 4 and with due regard for GMC requirements and expectations.

6. Where a student has passed written and/or clinical finals before the GMC required a medical degree to include a pass in the MLA in order for that degree to be recognised as a Primary Medical Qualification, that student may not need to take the CPSA or the AKT (as appropriate and where the previously passed assessments demonstrate the knowledge, skills and behaviours tested as part of the CPSA or AKT). This is subject to the proviso that the student must complete all final assessments within a 49-month period, whether those assessments formed part of the MLA or otherwise. The start point is 1 June of the year a student is due to take Year 5 / Graduate –Entry 3 Integrated Summative Clinical Examination (OSCE). The student must satisfy the relevant head of department or their deputy, or the Director of Clinical Studies and the Associate Director of Clinical Studies that they have maintained their knowledge skills and behaviours (including those previously assessed as part of their programme of assessment). Students who are unable to pass all the required assessments within the relevant 49-month period will be required to complete remedial assessment, the exact nature of which will depend on student circumstances and will be agreed in discussion with the Director for Clinical Studies, Curriculum and Assessment lead for Year 5 / Graduate Entry Year 3 and Assessment lead for Year 6 / Graduate Entry Year 4 and with due regard for GMC requirements and expectations.

Renumber the list as follows:

5.7. The subject of the Second Examination shall be clinical medicine in all its aspects.

(a) The Second Examination shall cover three years, the subjects for each year being prescribed by regulation of the Medical Sciences Board.

(b) Each of Years 4 and 5 shall involve a form of assessment prescribed by regulation of the Board which shall be notified to candidates.

(c) Year 6 shall involve written and clinical examinations and may involve oral examinations. No candidate shall be deemed to have completed the Year 6 Vocational Skills Course until they have passed the assessments for Years 4 and 5 and the Year 6 General Clinical Studies Course.

~~6.~~ 8. A candidate who has passed in all the assessment units of the Preliminary Examination in Graduate-entry Medicine and has passed all of the assessment units of the Year 2 Examination in Graduate-entry Medicine shall be permitted to proceed directly to commence Year 5.

~~7.~~ 9. The examiners may award a Distinction for outstanding performance over the three years. Criteria for Distinctions will be determined by the Medical Sciences Board.

8. The examiners may award merits in each of the examined subjects in Years 4 and

6. The examiners may award a merit for overall performance in the Integrated Summative Assessment in Year 5.

9. 10. Breach of the Code of Conduct for Medical Students, as approved and from time to time amended by Council's General Purposes Committee on the recommendation of the Medical Sciences Board, may be deemed to be a ground for removal of a student's name from the University Register of Clinical Students according to procedures which shall always be subject to approval by Council's General Purposes Committee on the recommendation of the Medical Sciences Board

Explanatory Notes

The above changes to regulations will support the framework that the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences will adopt to ensure it can meet GMC requirements and expectations with regards to the Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA) which the GMC recently introduced. The changes also consider the transitional arrangements guidance that the GMC has now published.

The School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences have introduced a 49-month timeframe to be used for assessing whether a student has met the GMC requirements relating to the MLA. This timeframe has been approved on based on existing provisions within university regulations for breaks in studies, CMA guidance, guidance from the GMC and evidence from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges. The regulations relating to the BMBCh have no provisions for students to be examined according to a previous set of regulations. These changes provide for this within a limited set of circumstances. Students who were unable to complete the MLA assessment within the 49-month timeframe would need to complete remedial assessment to be agreed by the Medical School taking into account all relevant information.

Changes have also been made to the 2023-24 Second BM exam regs (Gazette notice reference 2425-02-HUG).

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of Education Committee 2nd December 2024

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Second Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine

Brief note about nature of change: changes to exam regulations to clarify how students will meet GMC requirements with regards to the Medical Licensing Assessment, and which also include the transitional arrangements guidance issued by the GMC.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-24* [[2023-24, Second BM](#)]

Effective date

These changes are for students who started the Second BM from 2023-24.

Detail of change

Insert new text as follows:

4. Parts of the assessment in Year 5/Graduate-entry Year 3 and Year 6/Graduate-entry Year 4 will comprise the Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA) which is required by the General Medical Council to test the core knowledge, skills and behaviours of doctors new to medical practice in the UK. The two parts of the MLA are:

(a) Clinical and Professional Skills Assessment (CPSA): the clinical examination in Year 5/Graduate-entry Year 3 and the clinical examination in Year 6/Graduate-entry Year 4 together make up the CPSA.

(b) Applied Knowledge Test (AKT): this is the Applied Knowledge Test in Year 6/Graduate-entry Year 4, which is a nationally-constructed, university-delivered examination, which has a common format, test standard, delivery process and policy framework. The MLA Board acts as the main oversight and governance group responsible for all elements of the UK MLA AKT.

5. To meet the GMC's expectations around outcomes and standards, the MLA must be completed within 49 months. The start point is 1 June of the year a student is due to take Year 5 / Graduate –entry 3 Integrated Summative Clinical Examination (OSCE). Students who are unable to pass all the assessments required for the MLA within this period will be required to complete remedial assessment, the exact nature of which will depend on student circumstances and will be agreed in discussion with the Director for Clinical Studies, Curriculum and Assessment lead for Year 5 / Graduate Entry Year 3 and Assessment lead for Year 6 / Graduate Entry Year 4 and with due regard for GMC requirements and expectations.

6. Where a student has passed written and/or clinical finals before the GMC required a medical degree to include a pass in the MLA in order for that degree to be recognised as a Primary Medical Qualification, that student may not need to take the CPSA or the AKT (as appropriate and where the previously passed assessments demonstrate the knowledge, skills and behaviours tested as part of the CPSA or AKT). This is subject to the proviso that the student must complete all final assessments within a 49-month period, whether those assessments formed part of the MLA or otherwise. The start point is 1 June of the year a student is due to take Year 5 / Graduate –entry 3 Integrated Summative Clinical Examination (OSCE). The student must satisfy the relevant head of department or their deputy, or the Director of Clinical Studies and the Associate Director of Clinical Studies that they have maintained their knowledge skills and behaviours (including those previously assessed as part of their programme of assessment). Students who are unable to pass all the required assessments within the relevant 49-month period will be required to complete remedial assessment, the exact nature of which will depend on student circumstances and will be agreed in discussion with the Director for Clinical Studies, Curriculum and Assessment lead for Year 5 / Graduate Entry Year 3 and Assessment lead for Year 6 / Graduate entry Year 4 and with due regard for GMC requirements and expectations.

Renumber the list as follows:

~~5.~~ 7. The subject of the Second Examination shall be clinical medicine in all its aspects. The Second Examination shall cover three years, the subjects for each year being prescribed by regulation of the Medical Sciences Board.

~~6.~~ 8. The examiners may award a Distinction for outstanding performance over the three years. Criteria for Distinctions will be set out in the Examination Conventions.

~~7.~~ 9. The examiners may award merits in each of the examined subjects in Year 4 and Year 6 / Graduate-entry Year 4. The examiners may award a merit for overall performance in the Integrated Summative Assessment in Year 5 / Graduate-entry Year 3.

~~8.~~ 10. Breach of the Code of Conduct for Medical Students, as approved and from time to time amended by the Medical Sciences Board, may be deemed to be a ground for removal of a student's name from the University Register of Clinical Students according to procedures which shall always be subject to approval by Council's General Purposes Committee on the recommendation of the Medical Sciences Board.

No candidate may offer any assessment unit on more than two occasions, except in exceptional circumstances. A further exceptional opportunity to offer any assessment unit in Years 4, 5/Graduate-entry Year 3 or Year 6/Graduate-entry Year 4 shall require application to and approval on behalf of the Educational Policy and Standards Committee of the Medical Sciences Board, according to the published 'Procedure for Exceptional Attempts at the Second BM Examination'. If granted, this exceptional resit attempt shall normally be taken at the next opportunity, but may be deferred once, i.e. it must be taken

at one of the next two opportunities. In the event that a candidate's performance is judged to be unsatisfactory at the second attempt, and any application that may have been made for an exceptional further attempt is unsuccessful, then their name shall be removed from the Register of Clinical Students.

Explanatory Notes

The above changes to regulations will support the framework that the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences will adopt to ensure it can meet GMC requirements and expectations with regards to the Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA) which the GMC recently introduced. The changes also consider the transitional arrangements guidance that the GMC has now published.

The School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences have introduced a 49-month timeframe to be used for assessing whether a student has met the GMC requirements relating to the MLA. This timeframe has been approved on based on existing provisions within university regulations for breaks in studies, CMA guidance, guidance from the GMC and evidence from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges. The regulations relating to the BMBCh have no provisions for students to be examined according to a previous set of regulations. These changes provide for this within a limited set of circumstances. Students who were unable to complete the MLA assessment within the 49-month timeframe would need to complete remedial assessment to be agreed by the Medical School taking into account all relevant information.

Changes have also been made to the 2022-23 Second BM exam regs (Gazette notice reference 2425-03-HUG).

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved by Medical Sciences Division on 23rd July 2024****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

First BM Parts I and II

Brief note about nature of change: Minor change to assessment unit name**Location of change:** [2023-24, First BM Parts I and II \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)**Effective date****For students starting from MT2024 and for first examination from 2024-25****Detail of change**

Amend the following citations, as follows:

[1.13] Learning ~~from~~ **with** Patients 1[1.22] 6. Assessment unit 5 (Learning ~~from~~ **with** Patients 1).

[1.23] The Director of Preclinical Studies or their deputy will provide the Examination Board with evidence to certify that each candidate has participated satisfactorily in the *Learning ~~from~~ **with** Patients 1 course*.

[1.47] 6. Learning ~~from~~ **with** Patients 2[1.56] 7. Assessment unit 6 (Learning ~~from~~ **with** Patients 2)

[1.57] The Director of Preclinical Studies or their deputy will provide the Examination Board with evidence to certify that each candidate has participated satisfactorily in the *Learning ~~from~~ **with** Patients 2 course*.

Explanatory Notes

The course coordinators are of the view that this minor title change better reflects the assessment unit content.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by MSD divisional officer on 5th September 2024

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry

Brief note about nature of change: Change to location of available Supplementary Subjects from Gazette to Course Handbook

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-24*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsomandcellbioc&srchYear=2024&srchTerm=1&year=2023&term=1>

Effective date

For students starting from MT24

Detail of change

Amend citation reference 1.15 as follows

(c) The Supplementary Subjects available in any year will be published, together with the term in which each subject will be examined, in the ~~University Gazette~~ Course Handbook ~~not later than the end of the Trinity Term of the academic year prior to delivery of the courses in the academic year in which the courses are delivered.~~ Regulations governing the use of calculators in individual Supplementary Subjects will be notified ~~when the availability of these subjects is published in the~~ Gazette Course Handbook.

Explanatory Notes

The available Supplementary Subjects are no longer listed in the University Gazette. Changed to match Chemistry Regulations.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board**Approved on behalf of Education Committee 20th March 2025****Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Honour School of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry

Brief note about nature of change:Adjustment to 4th year submission deadline.**Location of change**In *Examination Regulations 2023/24*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsomandcellbioc&srchYear=2024&srchTerm=1&year=2023&term=1>

Effective date**For students starting from MT 2022 (Part II of FHS MT 2025)****For first examination from 2025-26****Detail of change**

1. Amend citation reference 1.41 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

Coursework must be submitted via the University approved online assessment platform, not later than noon on Thursday of the first eighth week of ~~Trinity~~ Hilary Full Term of the Part II year, together with a statement certifying that the work is the candidate's own work. No work will be accepted if it has already been submitted, either wholly or substantially, for an Honour School other than Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry, or for another degree of this University, or for a degree of any other institution.

Explanatory Notes

Change the submission deadline of coursework from start of Trinity Term to end of Hilary Term.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Assessment changes approved by MSD Educational Policy and Standards Committee on 7 March 2025.

Title of Programme

Master of Science by Coursework in Sleep Medicine

Brief note about nature of change:

Amendment to assessment for modules 3 and 7; Amendment to exam requirements for candidates undertaking modules for credit; Clarification of platform used for publishing exam requirements/deadlines to students.

Effective date

For all students on course from MT 2025 and for first examination from 2025-26

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2025/26*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=mosbcinsleemedi>

Detail of change

- 1. Amend citation reference 1.9 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):**

(iii) completion of the assessment for modules (i) to (viii) specified in the *Schedule*. For modules ~~(i), (iii), (v) and (vii)~~ (i) and (v), submission of one essay per module of not more than 4,000 words. For module (ii), completion of an online examination. For modules (iii) and (vii), submission of one essay per module of not more than 2,500 words and an online *viva voce*. For module (iv), submission of an oral presentation and an online *viva voce*. For module

(vi), completion of a live online case-study-based *viva voce* examination. For module (viii), submission of a poster presentation and an online *viva voce*.

2. Amend citation reference 1.13 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

7. Candidates who are not registered for an award but are undertaking any module from the Schedule for credit (see clause 18) should normally complete the same assessments for each module as those required for students on the MSc course (see clause 6). ~~an essay of not more than 4,000 words each for each module completed.~~ Information on assessment requirements and submission deadlines is provided ~~in the course handbook~~ on the course virtual learning environment.

3. Amend citation reference 1.15 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

9. Submitted assessments shall be submitted, in electronic format via the University approved assessment platform. The format of each submission and the deadlines for submission shall be published ~~in the course handbook~~ on the course virtual learning environment no later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the first year of the course.

4. Amend citation reference 1.16 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

10. Dissertations shall be submitted in electronic format via the University approved assessment platform by dates published ~~in the course handbook~~ on the course virtual learning environment no later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the first year of the course.

Explanatory Notes

1. The assessments for Modules 3 and 7 have been modified to add a *viva voce* component which adds authenticity to this assessment format, aligns with the course learning outcomes and adds resilience to this assessment format in an AI-enabled world.
2. To promote inclusive assessment practices, the full diversified assessment profile of the course is being offered to candidates taking Modules for credit. This replaces the single extended essay format previously offered to candidates taking Modules for credit.

3. Editorial changes have been made to clarify the platform by which candidates access information regarding exam deadlines and exam requirements.

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Assessment changes approved by MSD Educational Policy and Standards Committee on 7 March 2025

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation Postgraduate Diploma in Sleep Medicine

Brief note about nature of change: Amendment to assessment for modules 3 and 7;
Amendment to exam requirements for candidates undertaking modules for credit;
Clarification of platform used for publishing exam requirements/deadlines to students.

Effective date

For all students on course from MT 2025 and for first examination from 2025-26

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2025/26*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=pdinsleemedi>

Detail of change

1. Amend citation reference 1.9 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

(iii) completion of the assessment for modules (i) to (viii) specified in the *Schedule*. For modules ~~(i), (iii), (v) and (vii)~~ (i) and (v), submission of one essay per module of not more than 4,000 words. For module (ii), completion of an online examination. For modules (iii) and (vii), submission of one essay per module of not more than 2,500 words and an online *viva voce*. For module (iv), submission of an oral presentation and an online *viva voce*. For module (vi), completion of a live online case-study-based *viva voce* examination. For module (viii), submission of a poster presentation and an online *viva voce*.

2. Amend citation reference 1.12 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through)

through):

7. Candidates who are not registered for an award but are undertaking any module from the Schedule for credit (see clause 13) should normally complete the same assessments for each module as those required for students on the PGDip course (see clause 6). ~~an essay of not more than 4,000 words each for each module completed.~~ Information on assessment requirements and submission deadlines is provided ~~in the course handbook~~ on the course virtual learning environment.

3. Amend citation reference 1.13 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

8. Submitted assessments shall be submitted, in electronic format via the University approved assessment platform. The format of each submission and the deadlines for submission shall be published ~~in the course handbook~~ on the course virtual learning environment no later than the start of Michaelmas Term of the first year of the course.

Explanatory Notes

1. The assessments for Modules 3 and 7 have been modified to add a *viva voce* component which adds authenticity to this assessment format, aligns with the course learning outcomes and adds resilience to this assessment format in an AI-enabled world.
2. To promote inclusive assessment practices, the full diversified assessment profile of the course is being offered to candidates taking Modules for credit. This replaces the single extended essay format previously offered to candidates taking Modules for credit.
3. Editorial changes have been made to clarify the platform by which candidates access information regarding exam deadlines and exam requirements.