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# POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA (PG)/ MASTER (MSC) IN FAMILY MEDICINE



UNIVERSITY | MEDICAL  
*of* NICOSIA | SCHOOL





Educational accreditation by UK Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) & opportunity to become International Member of RCGP



First university in the European Union to earn a 5-Star rating for Online/Distance Learning



Develop skills in operations management, including quality improvement and patient safety



Option of full-time or part-time study, depending on your schedule and commitments

## OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME

Today's healthcare challenges – whether strengthening health systems, improving the quality of our patient care, or enhancing access to healthcare – require strong primary care. Strong primary care in turn requires competent family doctors who are forward-thinking and keen to develop new relationships with patients and other health professionals in primary and secondary care.

To address these global population health challenges, the University of Nicosia Medical School offers a Postgraduate Diploma and MSc in Family Medicine delivered online. It is a structured continuing professional development programme for physicians working as Family Doctors or in the community with a specialist role in internal medicine, paediatrics, or gynaecology.

The minimum full-time duration of the MSc programme in Family Medicine is 18 months (three semesters), with a flexible part-time option of up to 4 academic years.



The first two semesters consist of eight core clinically focused modules. Semester three is primarily research-oriented, offering an opportunity for students to develop their research skills. Students who do not wish to continue with the third semester can receive a Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine following the successful completion of the first two semesters.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine has received educational accreditation from the UK Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP). Furthermore, the University of Nicosia Medical School has been accredited by the RCGP to deliver the MRCGP International exam in Cyprus. Students successfully completing the first two semesters and meeting the RCGP's clinical experience eligibility criteria will be entitled to sit the examination in Cyprus to qualify as an International Member of the RCGP.



**“Family medicine is one of the most challenging of all the medical specialties. It involves looking after most of the patients with most of the problems most of the time and therefore needs a really high-quality education. The Postgraduate Diploma at the University of Nicosia Medical School offers high-quality education for people who are going to take on the challenging work involved in primary care family medicine.”**

**Sir David Haslam**  
**Prof of General Practice**  
Chair of UK National Institute  
For Health and Care Excellence

## University of Nicosia

For the past two decades, the University of Nicosia has led the development of life and health sciences programmes in Cyprus. In 2011, the University of Nicosia started the first Medical Programme in Cyprus by offering the St George's, University of London graduate-entry course. Our Medical School, the largest in the country, now also offers a 6-year MD degree programme designed for high school leavers, an MSc in Family Medicine for practising primary care physicians, a Doctorate in Medical Sciences (PhD) for research in all disciplines or specialties of Medicine, a Master of Science in Health Services Administration (MHSA), and the Master of Public Health (MPH). More than 850 students from 64 countries – including the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand – are enrolled in our Medical School.

The University of Nicosia has been awarded a 4-Star institutional rating by QS Stars University Rankings. It also is the first European university to be awarded a 5-Star rating for online/distance learning, and is the 13th university in the world to receive such a distinction.

## Online learning

The programme is completed online, with each module delivered over 3 learning weeks through an electronic platform. This platform enables to access video-recorded presentations, written material and lecture notes whilst allowing for active learning through interactive seminars, case-based discussions in forums, online quizzes, and workshops.

Candidates are responsible for checking with local regulatory authorities regarding the recognition of online/distance learning programmes in their country or another location where they wish to work.

## Assessment

The course assessment for the MSc in Family Medicine is based on four pillars:

- a written applied knowledge examination;
- a workplace-based assessment portfolio;
- the design, implementation, completion and write-up of a research project;
- and assignments for two elective modules.

Students successfully completing the written applied knowledge examination and the workplace-based portfolio will be granted a PG in Family Medicine should they not wish to complete the Masters Programme.





## MRCGP[INT]

Students successfully completing the first two semesters and meeting the RCGP's clinical experience eligibility criteria will be entitled to sit the examination in Cyprus for becoming an International Member of the RCGP. This exam consists of three components: a written applied knowledge examination, a workplace-based assessment portfolio and a clinical skills examination. The first two components are shared with the assessments for the PG, so only the clinical skills examination is an additional requirement for the MRCGP[INT] in Cyprus.

Because the content of the course is aligned with the RCGP curriculum, students are well prepared to take this exam at another RCGP International site.



## Academic Path

Curriculum mapped to core competences of FM doctor (WONCA and RCGP)

### FIRST SEMESTER

(30 ECTS, all courses required)

Course code/Title

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| FMED-511 | Communication and Consultation Skills in Primary Care (teaching is spread out during Semester 1&2) |
| FMED-533 | Managing Adults' Common Diseases and Multi-Morbidity in Primary Care                               |
| FMED-521 | Evidence-based Practice in Family Medicine   |
| FMED-535 | Common Musculoskeletal Conditions in Primary Care  |

### SECOND SEMESTER

(30 ECTS, all courses required - PG in Family Medicine for those students who do not wish to continue with the MScFM)

Course code/Title

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| FMED-514 | Acute Serious Illnesses and Traumatic Conditions in Primary Care |
| FMED-531 | Women's Health   |
| FMED-532 | Paediatrics and Child Health Surveillance                        |
| FMED-534 | Mental Health in Primary Care                                    |

### THIRD SEMESTER

(30 ECTS, two required courses + two electives)

Course code/Title

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| FMED-590 | Research Methodology in Family Medicine (Required) |
| FMED-591 | Primary Care Research Project (Required)           |

2 elective courses are chosen from the following:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| FMED-513 | Chronic Disease Management in Primary Care       |
| FMED-536 | Medical Leadership and Innovation in Healthcare  |
| FMED-537 | Learning and Teaching in Healthcare              |
| FMED-512 | Epidemiology, Prevention and Health Promotion    |
| FMED-522 | Informatics for Primary and Community Healthcare |
| FMED-523 | Implementing Change in Primary Care              |

\*The above structure is based on current delivery in 2019-20. The programme is subject to continuous evaluation and improvement, in consultation with students and lecturers, and in accordance with the regulations and guidelines of the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation in Higher Education, and therefore may be subject to change for future cohorts.



# ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

1. A medical degree granted by an institution recognised in the country where it is offered.
2. Evidence of current registration with the relevant medical council.
3. You must be involved in clinical practice throughout the duration of your enrolment in the programme.
4. If English is not your first language and you have not undertaken a previous degree taught in English you need:

6.5 overall in the IELTS (with 6.5 in writing and a minimum of 6.0 in all other elements)

Or: 213 overall in the computer-based TOEFL (550 paper based, 79 internet based)

Or: grade B in the IGCSE

Or: a score of 5 in English in the International Baccalaureate Standard Level (SL)

Or: a score of 70% in English in the European Baccalaureate

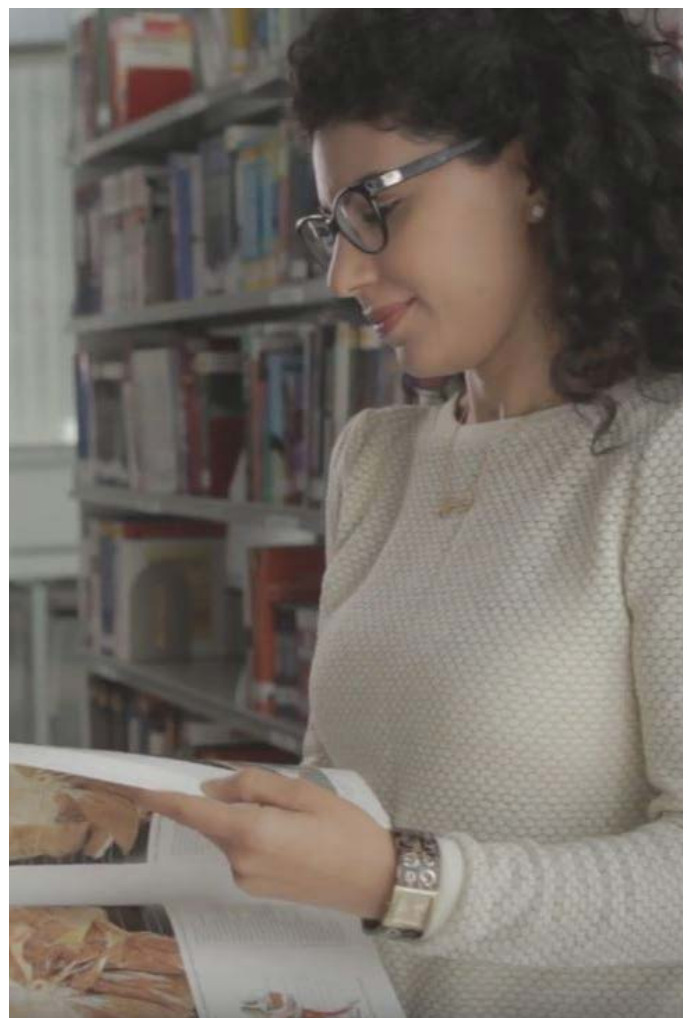
5. Two (2) professional reference letters.
6. An interview either in person or through video conference, which assesses your professional ability and commitment, empathy, initiative and resilience, communication skills, organisational and problem-solving skills, and teamwork.

# TUITION COSTS

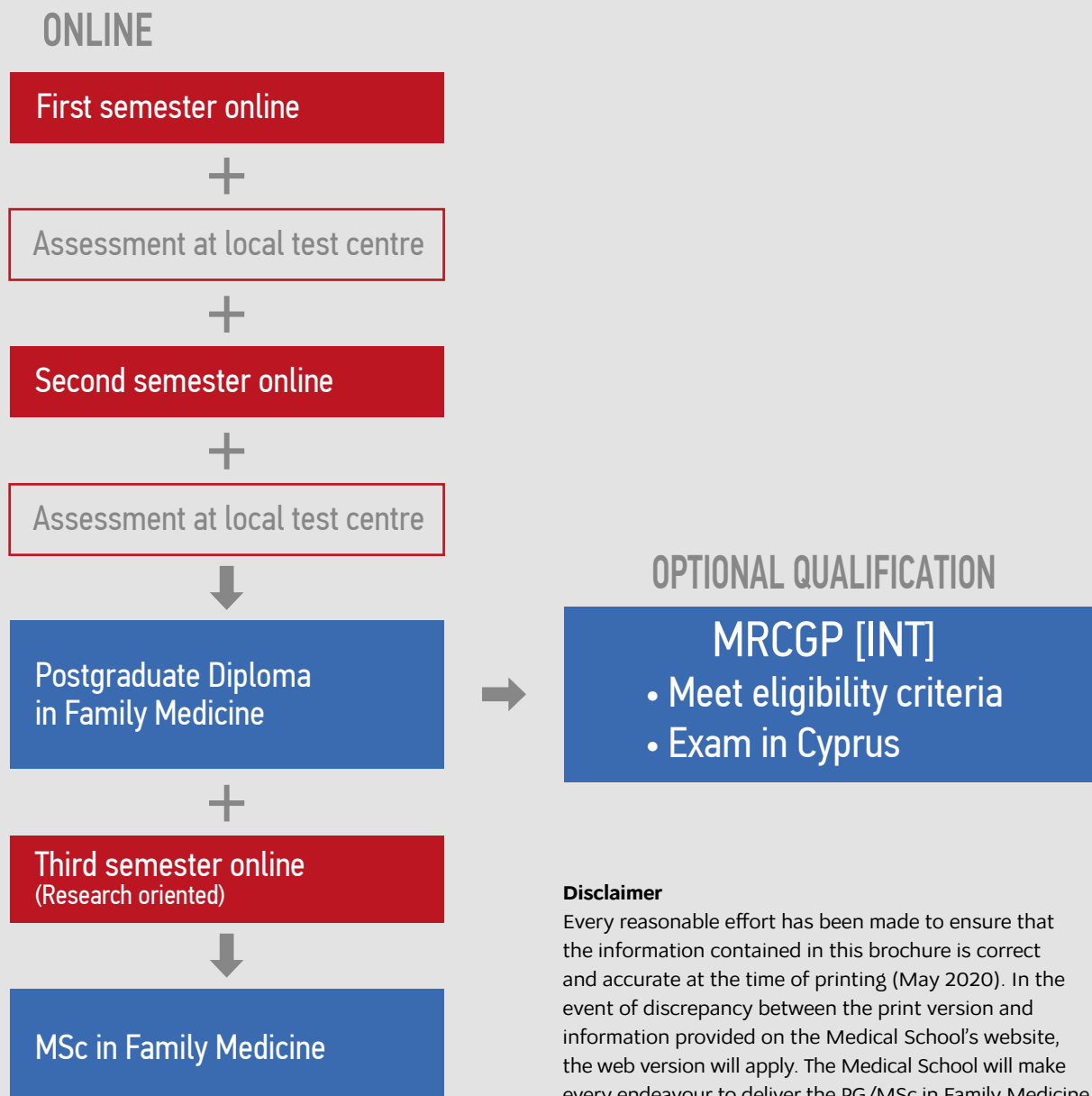
A key objective of our Family Medicine programme is to contribute, through development programmes, to the improvement of population health across the globe. In support of this goal, tuition fees and scholarships are designed to allow access to the course by doctors in a wide range of countries with varying levels of development.

This means tuition could be as low as €12,000 for the PG and €18,000 for the Master in Family Medicine, with an instalment plan also available. Our admissions representatives can provide more details.

Please note that students are responsible for the costs of arranging to take their examinations in their country of residence; these could include fees for a venue and invigilation.



# PROGRESSION PATH



## Disclaimer

Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this brochure is correct and accurate at the time of printing (May 2020). In the event of discrepancy between the print version and information provided on the Medical School's website, the web version will apply. The Medical School will make every endeavour to deliver the PG/MSc in Family Medicine as described in this brochure. However, changes may be necessary at times. The Medical School reserves the right to make changes to the content or methods of Diploma delivery. The Medical School reserves the right to change, without notice, any information about the services contained in this brochure.



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