

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA / MASTER IN FAMILY MEDICINE



UNIVERSITY
of NICOSIA
MEDICAL SCHOOL

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMME



A fully online course from the first university in the European Union to earn a 5-Star rating for Online/Distance Learning



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



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

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 offers a Postgraduate Diploma and MSc in Family Medicine delivered entirely 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 course 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

Over the past two decades, the University of Nicosia has led the development of life and health sciences programmes in Cyprus. The University of Nicosia started the first medical programme in Cyprus in 2011 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 practicing primary care physicians, a Master of Public Health for both working professionals and new graduates, and a PhD in Medical Science. More than 650 students from 63 countries around the world are enrolled in our Medical School, coming from as far away as the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The University of Nicosia has been awarded 4-Star institutional rating by QS Stars University Ratings. Moreover, it 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 fully 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 awarded 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-534	Mental Health 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-535	Common Musculoskeletal Conditions 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



ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

1. A medical degree officially recognised by the country from which it was awarded.
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. 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 €6,000 for the PG and €9,000 for the Master in Family Medicine, with an instalment plan also available. Please contact our admissions representatives for 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

FULLY ONLINE

First semester online

+

Assessment at local test centre

+

Second semester online

+

Assessment at local test centre

↓

Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine

+

Third semester online
(Research oriented)

↓

MSc in Family Medicine

OPTIONAL QUALIFICATION

MRCGP [INT]

- Meet eligibility criteria
- Exam in Cyprus



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