

Examination for Registration to Practice Medicine (ERPM)
Criterion based curriculum developed by the Academic Board in
Medicine of the Sri Lanka Medical Council

INTRODUCTION

The ERPM Candidates are expected to have the knowledge, attitudes and skills in the subject of medicine in order to practice as Intern medical officer in Sri Lanka.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The candidate should be able to

1. Be responsible for the well-being of the patient assigned to him/her and work independently as a house officer under supervision.
2. Be competent in the technique of history taking, physical examination, identify the problems and clinical reasoning, come to a reasonable diagnosis/differential diagnoses, write a concise summary and plan management at a level expected of a basic primary care doctor.
3. Competently document case notes and write discharge summaries.
4. Evaluate patients with common diseases (annex 1) in a rational, analytical way with a view to problem-solving (clinical reasoning).
5. Describe and relate knowledge of basic sciences and epidemiology to clinical situations and explain pathophysiological basis of diseases, judge the prognosis, and plan out investigations and treatment strategies.
6. Perform common diagnostic and therapeutic procedures (annex 2) and state their indications, limitations and undesirable effects.
7. Manage common medical emergencies (annex 3) and perform life-saving therapeutic procedures and common diagnostic procedures.
8. Organize preparation and transport of specimens (including special situations such as suspected viral hepatitis and HIV).
9. Interpret routine investigation results (laboratory, radiological, electrocardiography and others).

10. Competently state a reasonable clinical differential diagnosis, plan out a logical strategy to investigate further and suggest pharmacological and non-pharmacological management including preventive measures.
11. Communicate well with patients their families from different social and cultural backgrounds with particular reference to giving information, obtaining consent and breaking bad news.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The candidate should be able to

1. Obtain a comprehensive and accurate history, giving due attention to onset and development of symptoms, past medical and surgical history, drug and allergy history, dietetic history, family history and social background.
2. perform a comprehensive clinical examination that includes general examination and the examination of the following;
 - head and neck
 - cardiovascular system
 - respiratory system
 - neurological system
 - abdomen and rectal examination
 - skin
 - musculoskeletal system
 - haematology and lymphatic system
 - other relevant systems (eg. endocrine)
4. Perform competently the following techniques;
 - measurement of the blood pressure
 - ophthalmoscopy
 - auroscopy
4. Identify and prioritize the patient's medical, social and cultural problems.
5. Analyze the symptoms and physical signs and arrive at a rational differential diagnosis.

