

SRI LANKA MEDICAL COUNCIL,
31, NORRIS CANAL ROAD, COLOMBO – 10

THE EXAMINATION FOR REGISTRATION TO PRACTISE MEDICINE IN SRI LANKA [ERPM]

Arrangements for the ERPM from 1st March 2017

modified on 3rd August 2018

The following changes would be applicable to the three categories of candidates sitting the ERPM:

Category 1: Candidates registered to sit the ERPM **from before 1st September 2004**.

Category 2: Candidates registered to sit the ERPM **from 1st September 2004 to 28th February 2017**.

Category 3: Candidates registering to sit the ERPM **from 1st March 2017**.

The essential format of the ERPM would remain the same but with the details included in this notice.

Candidates are requested to refer to the description on each of ERPM Parts A, B, C and D as given in the SLMC web site: www.srilankamedicalcouncil.org for details.

The Sri Lanka Medical Council resolved 29th June 2018 that the registration to sit the ERPM of candidates failing to complete the ERPM before the deadline applicable to each registrant based on the date of registration would be discontinued. The new limit for passing the ERPM means that further attempts at the ERPM will not be permitted. Refer to the table at the end of this document giving the new dates for the limit which has been prepared after taking into account the issues affecting the conduct of the examination.

Category 1: Candidates registered to sit the ERPM from before 1st September 2004:

These candidates would continue with the ERPM as per conditions specified below:

1. **ERPM Part A** (Theory papers 1. Medicine and Psychiatry, 2. Paediatrics and Psychiatry, 3. Surgery and 4. Obstetrics and Gynaecology): The present regulations to sit the ERPM Part A would be followed. ERPM (Part A) should be completed by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D).
2. **ERPM Part D** (Theory papers 5. Community Medicine, 6. Forensic Medicine): The present regulations to sit the ERPM Part D would be followed. ERPM (Part D) should be completed by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D).
3. **ERPM Part B (Clinical assessment in Medicine, Paediatrics, Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynaecology)**: The concept of “old format” is to be eliminated and the present regulations to sit the ERPM (Part B) would apply from 1st March 2017.

Conversion of marks from ERPM clinical examination done before 1st March 2017. In each subject in one and the same sitting a mark of 45 and above obtained at a previous “old format” examination for each of the History taking Station and Clinical examination station and an aggregate of 50 marks and above for the above two stations of the subject would be considered a pass in that subject.

Eg: Pass when in the same sitting the subject marks for the History taking Station $\geq 45\%$ and the Clinical Examination Station $\geq 45\%$ and aggregate marks for the two stations giving a subject Total $\geq 50\%$

Failure to score the above would require the candidate to follow the present ERPM Part B arrangement. ERPM (Part B) should be complete by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D).

- 4. ERPM Part C (Viva Voce) in Medical Track (Emergency Medicine and Paediatrics) Surgical Track (Emergency Surgery and Obst / Gynae).** The concept of “old format” is to be eliminated and the present regulations to sit the ERPM (Part C) would apply from 1st March 2017.

Conversion of marks from ERPM viva voce examination done before 1st March 2017. In each subject of a “Track” the maximum subject marks scored for the viva component at one and the same previous “old format” examination would be added together and an aggregate mark of $\geq 50\%$ would be considered as a pass in that track as given below. If the mark scored in one subject of the track passed in the ‘old format’ is unavailable then the minimum mark of 50% is awarded to that subject.

Eg: Pass Medical Track when marks of Medicine viva + Paediatrics viva $\geq 50\%$.

Pass Surgical Track when marks of Surgery viva + Obstetrics and Gynaecology viva) $\geq 50\%$.

Failure to obtain a track score of 50% or above would require the candidate to sit the ERPM (Part C) as per present arrangement. ERPM (Part C) should be completed by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D).

5. Candidates would be expected to sit the subjects not passed in each of ERPM Parts A, B, C or D in all subsequent attempts so as to save on the number of attempts available before the deadline.
6. The date to complete all Parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D) is stated below. Those who complete all Parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D) would be eligible to obtain temporary registration with the SLMC to proceed to train as a Resident Medical Officer with the Ministry of Health.
7. Those candidates who fail to complete the ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D) by deadline stated would NOT be able to continue with further attempts at the ERPM and would be required to **LEAVE THE ERPM PROGRAMME.**

Category 2: Candidates registered to sit the ERPM from 1st September 2004 to 28th February 2017.

These candidates would continue with the ERPM as per conditions specified below:

- 1. ERPM Part A** (Theory papers 1. Medicine and Psychiatry, 2. Paediatrics and Psychiatry, 3. Surgery and 4. Obstetrics and Gynaecology): The present regulations to sit the ERPM Part A would be followed. ERPM (Part A) should be completed by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D) as stated below.

Note: Effective from **28th February 2017** subjects not passed or previously failed subjects should be attempted together at every attempt.

Candidates would be expected to sit the subjects not passed in ERPM Part A in all subsequent attempts so as to save on the number of attempts available before the deadline.

- 2. ERPM Part D (Theory papers 5. Community Medicine, 6. Forensic Medicine):** The present regulations to sit the ERPM Part D would be followed. ERPM (Part D) should be completed by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D).

Note: Effective from **28th February 2017** subjects not passed or both previously failed subjects should be attempted together at every attempt.

Candidates would be expected to sit the subjects not passed in ERPM Part D in all subsequent attempts so as to save on the number of attempts available before the deadline.

- 3. ERPM Part B (Clinical assessment in Medicine, Paediatrics, Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynaecology):** Continue in present ERPM Part B format and complete each subject of ERPM Part B based on the results obtained in each subject.

Note: Effective from **28th February 2017** subjects not passed or all previously failed subjects should be attempted together at every attempt.

Candidates would be expected to sit the subjects not passed but qualified to sit in ERPM Parts B in all subsequent attempts so as to save on the number of attempts available before the deadline.

The ERPM (Part B) should be completed by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D). These include the candidates who are “not qualified to sit the tracks” of the ERPM Part B due to NOT completing the corresponding tracks in ERPM Part A.

- 4. ERPM Part C (Viva Voce) in Medical Track (Emergency Medicine and Paediatrics) and Surgical Track (Emergency Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynaecology).** Continue in present ERPM Part C format and complete each Track of Part C based on the results obtained in each Track.

Note: Effective from **28th February 2017** Tracks not passed or previously failed Tracks should be attempted together at every attempt.

Candidates would be expected to sit the tracks not passed but qualified to sit in ERPM Part C in all subsequent attempts so as to save on the number of attempts available before the deadline of 28th February 2019.

The ERPM (Part C) should be completed by the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D). These include the candidates who are “not qualified to sit the tracks” of the ERPM Part C due to NOT completing the corresponding tracks in ERPM Part A.

5. Candidates would be expected to sit the subjects not passed in each of ERPM Parts A, B, C or D in all subsequent attempts so as to save on the number of attempts available before the deadline.
6. The date to complete all Parts of ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D) is stated below. Those who complete would be eligible to obtain Provisional Registration with the SLMC to proceed to train as a Resident Medical Officer with the Ministry of Health.
7. Those candidates who fail to complete the ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D) by the deadline stated would NOT be able to continue with further attempts at the ERPM and would be required to **LEAVE THE ERPM PROGRAMME**.

Category 3: Candidates registering to sit the ERPM from 1st March 2017

After graduating from a foreign Medical School the Degree obtained should be approved by the SLMC as being **acceptable to proceed to the Examination for Registration to Practice Medicine (ERPM)**. The application for Degree Approval of each candidate would be processed by the SLMC and the letter certifying the suitability of the degree is issued for future reference.

Following the approval of the degree each Candidate is required to sit the ERPM Part A and Part D on the next first occasion these are conducted by the SLMC at which time the **Registration in the ERPM programme** is done and an ERPM Registration card with the registration number is issued. This Registration card is referred to in all matters pertaining to the ERPM and serves also as an **Identity card**. Failure to sit the ERPM Part A and Part D at this time would compel the SLMC to use the date of degree approval as the effective date to calculate the limitation of 5 years to complete the ERPM.

These candidates would continue with the ERPM as per conditions specified below:

1. **ERPM Part A** (Theory papers 1. Medicine and Psychiatry, 2. Paediatrics and Psychiatry, 3. Surgery and 4. Obstetrics and Gynaecology): The present regulations to sit the ERPM Part A would be followed. ERPM (Part A) should be completed **within five (5) years from the date of first registration** which is the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D).

Note: All subjects should be attempted at the first attempt and in subsequent attempts all previously failed subjects or subjects not passed should be attempted together.

2. **ERPM Part D** (Theory papers 5. Community Medicine, 6. Forensic Medicine): The present regulations to sit the ERPM Part A would be followed. ERPM (Part D) should be completed within **five (5) years from the date of first registration** which is the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D).

Note: Both subjects should be attempted at the first attempt and in subsequent attempts any previously failed subjects or subjects not passed should be attempted together.

- 3. ERPM Part B (Clinical assessment in Medicine, Paediatrics, Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynaecology):** Continue in present ERPM Part B format and complete each subject of Part B based on the results obtained in each subject.

Note: All subjects qualified to sit should be attempted in the first attempt and In subsequent attempts all previously failed subjects or subjects not passed should be attempted together as per present regulations of the ERPM.

The ERPM (Part B) should be completed within **five (5) years from the date of first registration** which is the date for completion of all parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D) by that candidate.

- 4. ERPM Part C (Viva Voce) in Medical Track (Emergency Medicine and Paediatrics) Surgical Track (Emergency Surgery and Obstetrics and Gynaecology).** Continue in present ERPM Part C format and complete each Track of Part C based on the results obtained in each Track.

Note: All Tracks qualified to sit should be attempted in the first attempt. In subsequent attempts both previously failed Tracks and Tracks not passed should be attempted together as per present regulations of the ERPM.

5. Candidates would be expected to sit the subjects and tracks not passed in each of ERPM Parts A, B, C or D in all subsequent attempts so as to save on the number of attempts available before the deadline for completion of ERPM.
6. The date to complete all Parts of ERPM (A, B, C and D) is **five (5) years from the date of first registration**. Those who complete would be eligible to obtain Provisional Registration with the SLMC to proceed to training as a Resident Medical Officer.
7. Those candidates who fail to complete the ERPM (Parts A, B, C and D) by deadline stated would NOT be able to continue with further attempts at the ERPM and would be required to **LEAVE THE ERPM PROGRAMME**.

The deadline for completing the ERPM is presented in Table 1 and further detailed in Table 2.

Note: As per decision of the Council on 20th July 2018 the ERPM registration of all candidates will be terminated as specified in **Table 1**. Rejoining or continuation in the ERPM programme is then NOT permitted. **(Refer to examples in attached Table 2).**

If interruptions in conducting the ERPM examination have occurred due to national events or natural disasters the dates for terminating the ERPM registration will be modified and would be announced accordingly.

Registrar, SLMC

Updated: 3rd August 2018

Note: Further details on the ERPM format and examination rules are available on the SLMC Web site: www.mc.lk and www.srilankamedicalcouncil.org

Table 1. Deadline for completion of ERPM with relevant dates

Registration Category	Date of first Registration	Original Date to discontinue	Reason for Adjustment of date	New date to discontinue	Comments
1	Before 1 st Sept 2004	28 th Feb 2019	Examination delays by strikes: 2 exams X 6 months = 12 months	28 th Feb 2020 Further adjusted to 20th July 2020 (Discontinuation from ERPM)	Add 6 months per exam delay X 2 = 12 months + 2years from SLMC decision regarding ERPM discontinuation
2	1 st Sept 2004 to 28 th Feb 2018	28 th Feb 2019 or 5yrs from date of first Registration whichever is later	Examination delays by strikes: 2 exams X 6 months = 12 months	28 th Feb 2020 Further adjusted to 20th July 2020 (Discontinuation from ERPM) Or Registration date add (5 + 1 yrs) whichever later	Add 6 months per exam X 2 = 12 months + 2years from SLMC decision (regarding ERPM discontinuation for earlier candidates)
3	After 1 st March 2018	5 years after first Registration	None	5 years after first Registration	ERPM uninterrupted.

Table 2: Examples of Dates for discontinuation from ERPM:

Year of Registration	Expected Year of Discontinuation	Comment
2004 and before	20 th July 2020	Affected by exam delays
2005 to 2014	20 th July 2020	Affected by exam delays
2015	In 2021, 6 yrs. from registration date	Affected by exam delays
2016	In 2022, 6 yrs. from registration date	Affected by exam delays
2017	In 2023, 6 yrs. from registration date	Affected by exam delays
2018 and after	5 years from Registration date (2023 and after)	Unaffected