

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

PGDip in Family Medicine (10220020)

Department Family Medicine

Minimum duration of study 2 years

Total credits 120

NQF level 08

Admission requirements

General Admission Regulations:

Refer to the UP Institutional Admissions Policy as well as the General Academic Regulations and Student Rules (Go to www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home and click on General Rules and Regulations, then on General Academic Regulations and Student Rules)

1. All applications must be accompanied by the following documents:
 - a. Certified full academic transcripts from undergraduate to current level;
 - b. Certified copy of ID or passport;
 - c. A research concept note (not applicable to honours or coursework master's degrees): A description of the proposed research field indicating a research topic and the broad scope of the proposed study, not exceeding 500 words.
2. All applicants with international qualifications must submit the following documents, subject to provision number 9:
 - a. A SAQA evaluation of the completed qualification or a comprehensive Foreign Qualification Report
 - b. *TOEFL or IELTS or Pearson Test of English or Oxford Test of English test results (if applicable)
 - c. Certified copy of passport.
3. All postgraduate applications are subject to departmental admissions processes.
4. Admissions is based on the content of and performance in the prior degree, bridging arrangements (where required), academic merit and prior work experience (if applicable).
5. Admission to all qualifications is subject to supervisory capacity and/or research projects in the field of specialisation in a department, therefore the relevant department has the right to limit the number of students per year.
6. Complying with the minimum admissions requirements, does not automatically guarantee admission to the degree.
7. Proposed research studies for masters and doctoral applicants should align with the research focus of the relevant department.
8. *If a qualifying candidate has expressed an interest in a field of study that the relevant department cannot accommodate, the applicant may be considered for an alternative project.*

9. All postgraduate applicants must be proficient in English as English is the official language of tuition, communication and correspondence at the University of Pretoria. Candidates who cannot provide evidence that previous studies were completed in English, must submit TOEFL or IELTS or Pearson Test of English or Oxford Test of English test results with their application.
10. All applicants must be computer literate.
11. All students need to have access to an internet enabled device, as well as consistent email and internet access.
12. Allowance will be made for the diversity profile of students in accordance with the University strategy.

Minimum admissions requirements

1. MBChB (or equivalent) degree
2. Registration as a medical doctor with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)
or
registration with the licensing authority in the country of origin

Other programme-specific information

Two academic years part-time study with a modularised curriculum by means of distance education. A blended approach which will involve campus-based teaching, web-based teaching and workplace-based learning will be followed.

Examinations and pass requirements

- i. Assignments as prescribed by the head of department, must be submitted for each of the eight modules. If a student does not achieve at least 50%, one resubmission is permitted for each module.
- ii. Workplace-based learning and assessment.

Learning in the workplace will be driven by peer learning and documented by means of a portfolio of learning. The portfolio of learning would need to include:

- Evidence of self-directed learning by means of six (6) monthly learning plans and reflection. The assignments will form part of the portfolio;
 - Evidence of learning by means of ten (10) observations per year; and
 - Evidence of learning skills by use of a logbook.
- iii. Final assessment

An annual assessment of the learning documented in the portfolio by the Department of Family Medicine. A minimum final mark of 50% is required as a pass mark for each module.

National exit examination

There will be one national exit examination for the country offered by the College of Family Physicians. The portfolio should be part of the assessment and the portfolio will give the student access to the national exit examination. Successful candidates will receive a Higher Diploma from the College as well as a Postgraduate Diploma from the University.

Pass with distinction

An average of at least 75% in the for the mdoules and the portfolio is required to obtain the diploma with distinction.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Family-oriented patient care 700 (FFM 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the family as the object of care; family systems theory; tools for family-oriented care; family life-cycle; ethics of treating families; family conference; the family and chronic illness; family violence and alcohol abuse in the family.

Chronic diseases 700 (FMD 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of diabetes mellitus, asthma, epilepsy, hypertension, cardiac failure, obesity and chronic pain.

Psychiatry 700 (FMF 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Psychiatry in family practice

Study of depression, anxiety; suicide; the difficult adolescent; substance use and abuse; schizophrenia; dementia and delirium.

Infectious diseases 700 (FMI 700)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Introduction; study of contagious disease important to the traveller; contagious diseases in the tropical regions; viral illnesses in children; fever of unknown origin; sexually transmitted diseases; haemorrhagic fever; infective diarrhoea; meningitis; leprosy; HIV/Aids; tuberculosis; rabies; school attendance and infectious diseases; community-acquired pneumonia (CAP); acute virus hepatitis; rational use of antibiotics and other exogenous infections.

Practice management 700 (FMX 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of human resource management; financial management; auditing of management and services management. The study of leadership and clinical governance for clinical primary care. The study of learning in primary care teams.

Philosophy and principles of family medicine 700 (HAK 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the origins and emergence of Family Medicine. Study of the principles of Family Medicine. Study of the consultation. Study of patient-centred medicine, communication and the doctor-patient relationship. Study of medical ethics.

Clinical primary care 700 (PCC 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

Department	Family Medicine
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Period of presentation	Year
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Module content

Study of primary care over the whole quadruple burden of disease (HIV/AIDS, TB, maternal and child care, non-communicable diseases, trauma and violence) and in terms of the morbidity profile of primary care in South Africa. This include acute (emergency) care, chronic care and in some cases care provided in the midwife obstetric unit. Up-skilling to ensure that primary care doctors are familiar with the latest national guidelines across the whole burden of disease, and refreshed of all the clinical skills required.

Community-orientated primary care 700 (PCP 700)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
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Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
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Department	Family Medicine
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Period of presentation	Year
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Module content

Study of the concept of community-orientated primary care. Study of the five principles of community-orientated primary care; Local health and institutional analysis, comprehensive care, equity, practice with science and service integration around users. A practical guide to doing community-orientated primary care.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Family-oriented patient care 700 (FFM 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the family as the object of care; family systems theory; tools for family-oriented care; family life-cycle; ethics of treating families; family conference; the family and chronic illness; family violence and alcohol abuse in the family.

Chronic diseases 700 (FMD 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of diabetes mellitus, asthma, epilepsy, hypertension, cardiac failure, obesity and chronic pain.

Psychiatry 700 (FMF 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Psychiatry in family practice

Study of depression, anxiety; suicide; the difficult adolescent; substance use and abuse; schizophrenia; dementia and delirium.

Infectious diseases 700 (FMI 700)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Introduction; study of contagious disease important to the traveller; contagious diseases in the tropical regions; viral illnesses in children; fever of unknown origin; sexually transmitted diseases; haemorrhagic fever; infective diarrhoea; meningitis; leprosy; HIV/Aids; tuberculosis; rabies; school attendance and infectious diseases; community-acquired pneumonia (CAP); acute virus hepatitis; rational use of antibiotics and other exogenous infections.

Practice management 700 (FMX 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of human resource management; financial management; auditing of management and services management. The study of leadership and clinical governance for clinical primary care. The study of learning in primary care teams.

Philosophy and principles of family medicine 700 (HAK 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Family Medicine
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Study of the origins and emergence of Family Medicine. Study of the principles of Family Medicine. Study of the consultation. Study of patient-centred medicine, communication and the doctor-patient relationship. Study of medical ethics.

Clinical primary care 700 (PCC 700)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

Department Family Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Study of primary care over the whole quadruple burden of disease (HIV/AIDS, TB, maternal and child care, non-communicable diseases, trauma and violence) and in terms of the morbidity profile of primary care in South Africa. This include acute (emergency) care, chronic care and in some cases care provided in the midwife obstetric unit. Up-skilling to ensure that primary care doctors are familiar with the latest national guidelines across the whole burden of disease, and refreshed of all the clinical skills required.

Community-orientated primary care 700 (PCP 700)

Module credits 15.00

NQF Level 08

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Family Medicine

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Study of the concept of community-orientated primary care. Study of the five principles of community-orientated primary care; Local health and institutional analysis, comprehensive care, equity, practice with science and service integration around users. A practical guide to doing community-orientated primary care.

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications

Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.