

Programme Specification

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| Awarding Body/Institution | Queen Mary University of London |
| Teaching Institution | Queen Mary University of London |
| Name of Final Award and Programme Title | Postgraduate Certificate in Podiatric Sports Medicine |
| Name of Interim Award(s) | NA |
| Duration of Study / Period of Registration | 1-2 years Variable mode |
| QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s) | A3TC |
| QAA Benchmark Group | Medicine |
| FHEQ Level of Award | Level 7 |
| Programme Accredited by | |
| Date Programme Specification Approved | 25/05/2016 (For Sept 2016 start) |
| Responsible School / Institute | William Harvey Research Institute |

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

William Harvey Research Institute

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

N/A

Programme Outline

This programme is based on the philosophy that the total care for the athlete requires a multidisciplinary approach underpinned by evidenced based medicine.

To date, Podiatric Sports Medicine (PSM) has never been formally structured as a discipline within the UK. The College of Podiatry are now formalising the recognition and structure with a view to introducing an examination and accreditation process to recognise the specialty. Acknowledging and responding to this, the proposed course will be the first formal education programme in PSM.

The programme will be delivered by Sports and Exercise Medicine (SEM) within the William Harvey Research Institute and as such, will place the School at the forefront of provision of Podiatric Sports Medicine within the UK. Working in sport is a largely practical discipline and the programme's emphasis lies firmly on regular clinical experience. Students will benefit from regular contact with members of Sports and Exercise Medicine at QMUL, as well as visiting clinicians and lecturers who are experienced Sports Medicine specialists. This course is designed to offer a mastery of foundation concepts and skills in Sports and Exercise Medicine.

Lectures will be delivered by national experts; from cutting edge basic scientists to physiotherapists, doctors and other health

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professionals working with world-class athletes. Core clinician-scientists on staff consult to elite athletes, and together with our support scientists, have an international research profile in Sports and Exercise Medicine. Our staff will work closely with students to nurture potential research interests and to develop clinical ability in Sports and Exercise Medicine. The proposed course content will cover detailed assessment and management of sports injuries of the lower limb, especially foot, ankle and lower leg with imaging in sports medicine to assist in supporting clinical diagnosis. It is thus envisaged that this will prepare candidates who may wish to go further and sit the Fellowship examination in PSM offered by the Directorate of Podiatric Medicine, College of Podiatry, London.

Initially it is envisaged that this PGCert in PSM will run within the existing PGT SEM programme, and as such students will then have the opportunity to convert the PGCert to an MSc/PGDip within the PGT SEM. The current taught SEM programme accepts doctors, physiotherapists and osteopaths to undertake further professional development in SEM. By integrating podiatrists into the existing taught programme together with the development of a new bespoke module in PSM, this will facilitate and support multidisciplinary practice.

The PSM programme will offer a modular PGCert structure with an innovative practical component involving clinical shadowing and mentoring. Students will be exposed to unique clinical learning opportunities, such as the monthly inter-disciplinary combined clinic, that will challenge and sharpen diagnostic skills. An interactive and supportive clinician-student relationship will be a feature of clinics on the postgraduate programme.

Aims of the Programme

The overarching aims of the programme are:

- To provide a sound clinical base in Podiatric Sports Medicine on which to build future clinical practice
- To facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the scientific basis which underlies the clinical practice of Podiatric Sports Medicine
- To equip students with the key skills required in order for them to be able to critically analyse the literature and provide evidenced based interventions

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

When completing the PGCert in Podiatric Sports Medicine students will be expected to achieve the following learning outcomes.

Academic Content:

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| A1 | Have developed a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and / or new insights in the field of Podiatric Sports Medicine |
| A2 | Be able to adopt a sound clinical approach to the assessment and management of injuries and medical problems in sport |
| A3 | Have learned to adopt a scholarly and critical approach to the interpretation of relevant academic literature |
| A4 | Have learned to adopt an autonomous, independent approach to learning |

Disciplinary Skills - able to:

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| B 1 | Display the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility |
| B 2 | Show decision making in complex and unpredictable situations |
| B 3 | Possess the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development |

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| Attributes: | |
| C 1 | Can act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level |
| C 2 | Demonstrate appropriate and comprehensive practical and theoretical skills as well as advanced communication expertise allowing decision making in complex and unpredictable situations |
| C 3 | Demonstrate autonomy in self-directed learning and realise their scope of practice |

How Will You Learn?

One of the major strengths in the course lies in the fact that the course will be led by two of the leading Podiatric Surgeons in Podiatric Sports Medicine and lectures will be delivered by national experts; from cutting edge basic scientists to physiotherapists, doctors and other health professionals working with world-class athletes. Core clinician-scientists on staff consult to elite athletes, and together with our support scientists, we have an international research profile in Sports and Exercise Medicine.

Teaching methods employed during the PGCert consists of lectures from the core of staff in Sports and Exercise Medicine and outside experts using well-established classic teaching methods in order to create a stimulating and effective learning environment.

The taught course will be supported using the e-learning platform, QMplus:

- Overall course information, including student handbook and timetables, will distributed through the learning platform and also course notifications

Each module will be presented on-line as:

- Summary of the module
- Aims and objectives
- Week-by-week module timetable
- Plan for assessment
- Reading lists

Library facilities

All students registered on the course will have access to the college library facilities which gives access to a large number of relevant journals.

The materials / lecture notes for each week of the module will be released together with a list of key papers. The topics for module-week outlined in the syllabus will be delivered using a variety of methods to include:

- 1) Lectures - These lectures will be delivered by by members of Sports and Exercise Medicine and external experts in their field.
- 2) Lecture notes and document reading material (word documents and PDF). Topics will also be covered in the form of guided reading - with a reading list or short series of scientific papers.
- 3) Practical seminars / tutorials and lab-based practical sessions - practical small group sessions of 'hands-on' teaching

How Will You Be Assessed?

Formative Assessment

Formative assessment will be given in the form of feedback from coursework and in some modules in the form of short quizzes.

Summative Assessment

The course employs a variety of assessment methods to support student learning and achieve learning outcomes. There will be an end-of-course summative assessment after completion of the modules:

- Case histories

- Essays

Exams

- Short-answer questions

- Extended matching questions

- OSCEs

How is the Programme Structured?

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

Flexibility

The course aims to meet a wide range of learning needs whilst maintaining flexibility of content and duration. This course provides adaptable opportunities to study to different levels in the major areas within Sports and Exercise Medicine. As practicing clinicians, students will have the option of undertaking all taught modules within one academic year, or alternatively taking one module per semester over two academic years.

Modular Structure

The Certificate is provided in a modular structure in line with the MSc in Sports and Exercise Medicine. Due to the specificity of the Certificate, the 4 modules are compulsory. Those students wishing to progress to the PGDip/MSc in SEM will have the flexibility to integrate with this programme. That is, the students will be able to select three optional modules from those already established in the PGT Sports and Exercise Medicine programme in addition to the four compulsory PSM modules and a module in Research Methods. Each module is worth 15 M-level credits:

First Semester Modules:

Podiatry and Biomechanics - compulsory module for all

Sports Injury Assessment I - compulsory module for all

Second Semester Modules

Imaging in Sports Medicine - compulsory module for all

Podiatric Sports Medicine – compulsory module for all

Clinic Attendance

Students will be given the opportunity to attend a number of in-house and externally supported sports related clinics. We provide physician led, physiotherapy and podiatry clinics. Students must attend a minimum of 16 clinics before they complete the Certificate. Specifically, the required attendance will be Sports and Exercise Medicine x 2, physiotherapy X 2, Podiatric surgery x 2, Podiatric sports medicine x 4, and multidisciplinary x 2 with 4 additional clinics from any of these disciplines (i.e. student choice).

Awards

In order to be eligible for the award of PGcert students must complete and pass modules to the value of 60 credits having obtained an overall mark of no less than 50%.

The examination board may condone failure in the taught component of modules up to a maximum value of 15 credits, where:

i) A student achieves a module mark of 40.0 or higher; and,

ii) The student achieves an average mark of 50.0 or higher across all modules.

This outcome shall be known as 'fail condoned, academic credit awarded'.

Academic Year of Study

| Module Title | Module Code | Credits | Level | Module Selection Status | Academic Year of Study | Semester |
|------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Podiatry and Biomechanics | WHR7023 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Sports Injuries Assessment 1 | WHR7022 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 1 |
| Imaging in Sports Medicine | WHR7033 | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |
| Podiatric Sports Medicine | new | 15 | 7 | Compulsory | 1 | Semester 2 |

What Are the Entry Requirements?

Qualification requirements for the course are:

- BSc Podiatry /Podiatric Medicine
- Registered with Health Care Professions Council or equivalent regulatory body for overseas students
- At least one year of clinical experience
- Non-native speakers must achieve a minimum IELTS score of 6.5.

How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff-Student Liaison Committee provides a formal means of communication and discussion between schools and students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the school / institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the school / institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act a forum for discussing programme and module developments. The student course representative is also invited once a month to the staff meeting to air informally student feedback and issues addressed.

Each school operates a Learning and Teaching Committee, or equivalent, which advises the School / Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at school level including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in this Committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership, or consideration of student surveys.

All schools operate an Annual Programme Review of their taught undergraduate and postgraduate provision. The process is normally organised at a School-level basis with the Head of School, or equivalent, responsible for the completion of the school's Annual Programme Reviews. Schools / Institutes are required to produce a separate Annual Programme Review for undergraduate programmes and for postgraduate taught programmes using the relevant Undergraduate or Postgraduate Annual Programme Review pro-forma. Students' views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

Academic Support

Induction:

- At the beginning of the course all students will receive a 'Cheat Sheet' PDF explaining how to use QMUL's e-learning platform, QMplus and how to access the course handbook, learning activities, course notes and coursework submission.
- All students will be invited to an induction day at the beginning of the first term to go through programme structure, module outlines, clinic bookings and QMplus. This will also include introductions to the Unit lead, course co-ordinator, module leads,

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personal tutors, teaching fellows and administrative staff.

Personal Tutor:

All students will be allocated a personal tutor, with whom they will meet on induction day. The personal tutor will provide academic advice for the student throughout the whole of the course. This will include:

- Advice about study options
- Advice about module selections
- General academic guidance
- Development of key skills within the curriculum
- Advice and guidance about academic progress including discussion of student feedback
- Advice if you are encountering academic difficulties, such as meeting deadlines or concerns over performance
- Advice with regard to interrupting studies
- Advice about extenuating circumstances
- Advice about academic complaints and appeals

Feedback

- A student representative will be appointed at the beginning of term to obtain feedback from students throughout the academic year and invited to channel this through a slot once a month in the Unit's staff meeting
- Informal feedback from students will also be sought from students throughout the course
- Formal feedback from students will be obtained at the end of each module in the form of a questionnaire
- Feedback will be sought about a number of areas including:
 - i) individual module content
 - ii) individual module delivery
 - iii) delivery aspects of the module
 - iv) quality aspects of associated materials
- This feedback will be used to make alterations to the forthcoming modules as well as to the course overall for the following year.
- More detailed formal feedback about course structure will be sought at the end of each term and at the end of the year through the SSLC.

Student matters will also be discussed at the WHRI Learning and Teaching committee are incorporated in this Committee's work in a number of ways.

- Programme Review

All activities will be monitored by the Unit and Institute to maintain the quality of the course. In addition to ongoing review, content and delivery will be reviewed formally annually and together with outcomes of student assessment and student feedback and changes made to the programme accordingly.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

Not applicable

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and all sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- Finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia
- Applying for funding through the disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)
- Arranging DSA assessments of need
- Special arrangements in examinations

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- Accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- Specialist one-to-one 'study skills' tuition
- Ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- Providing educational support workers (e.g. note takers, readers, library assistants)
- Mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

There are no formal links with employers. However, there are several ways in which such a qualification might inform employers about graduates' qualities and skills:

- This will be the first qualification in the UK for Podiatric Sports Medicine and place the student at the forefront of this discipline
- This programme will position the student for the proposed fellowship in Podiatric Sports Medicine being developed by the Directorate of Podiatric Medicine, College of Podiatry
- Working in elite sport is highly competitive in all disciplines, and thus by having a postgraduate qualification would this give a competitive-edge for those wishing to work in the area.
- Graduates continue the 'Queen Mary Experience' after they leave by keeping in contact with the course team, colleagues and friends.
- The Unit is part of the Sports and Exercise network with many alumnis potentially finding employment through contacts made through the course.
- For students who progress to complete the full MSc, the completion of the independent research project may provide an entry point and pathway into higher research training.

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Dr Steph Hemmings

Person responsible for management of programme

Mr Trevor Prior and Dr Nat Padhiar

Date Programme Specification produced/amended by School Learning and Teaching Committee

12th Feb 2016

Date Programme Specification approved by Taught Programmes Board

25/05/2016 (For Sept 2016 start)