

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
LI KA SHING FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

Objectives of the Programme

The objective of the MBBS curriculum is to produce doctors who are competent in the understanding and delivery of effective, humane and ethical medical care, committed to lifelong learning, and ready to proceed to postgraduate training. The curriculum lasts for 12 semesters spreading over six years. It is made up of five building blocks: Introduction to the Art and Science of Medicine, the System-based Blocks, the Integrated Block, the Clinical Clerkships, and the Electives. The content and the mode of delivery are designed to manifest the following four themes of the curriculum:

(a) Human Biology in Health and Disease

Emphases of the theme:

- Structure, function, organization and development of the human body, and the changes associated with disease, injury and abnormal development
- The effect of environmental change and societal factors on human disease and behaviour
- Integration of knowledge from biological, behavioural and social sciences
- Understanding of the principles and practice of scientific research

(b) Professional Skills: Diagnostic, Problem Solving, Effective Communication and Clinical Management

Emphases of the theme:

- Diagnostic, problem-solving and management skills of clinical disorders
- Recognition and respect for the patient's individual perceptions and beliefs
- Importance of effective communication in the doctor-patient relationship

(c) Population Health, Health Services, Economics and Policy

Emphases of the theme:

- Epidemiology and the wider determinants of health, illness and disease
- Integration of primary, secondary and tertiary care in the provision of health services
- Equity, effectiveness and efficiency in health care provision
- Influence of community structures and economy on health care expectation and delivery
- Community resources and the role of allied health

(d) Medical ethics, Professional Attitudes and Behaviour

Emphases of the theme:

- Understanding of a doctor's ethical and legal obligations
- Professional attitudes and behaviour of a health care professional to patients, colleagues and the community
- Commitment to upholding professional practice through regular self-appraisal and continuing education

Learning outcomes of the MBBS Programme

University Educational Aim 1: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in pursuit of academic / professional excellence, critical intellectual enquiry and life-long learning.

Related to medicine: Recognise the limits of scientific knowledge and understanding in dealing with clinical issues, critique the best available evidence on outcomes to analyse complex clinical issues

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- understand the structure, function, organization and development of the human body, and the changes associated with disease, injury and abnormal development
- understand the principles and practice of scientific research, and their application in the biology of health and disease
- plan and interpret the investigation of patients with common or chronic conditions
- be motivated to continue the process of life-long, self-directed learning

University Educational Aim 2: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in tackling novel situations and ill-defined problems.

Related to medicine: Make rational and sensitive decisions about ill-defined clinical problems based on best available evidence

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- understand the effect of environmental change on human disease and behavior
- take clinical histories and conduct clinical examinations in an organized manner in a wide variety of clinical situations
- understand the equity, effectiveness and efficiency in health care provision
- identify key issue in a problematic health care situations and to identify, interpret and synthesize the resources necessary to deal with the problem

University Educational Aim 3: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in critical self-reflection, greater understanding of others, and upholding personal and professional ethics.

Related to medicine: Engage in relevant and realistic professional self-appraisals as medical practitioners

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- integrate knowledge from biological, behavioral and social sciences
- keep organized and accurate clinical records, and to communicate effectively with other health-care professionals
- work constructively in group situations and to function as a member of a team
- understand the professional roles and responsibilities of doctors as well as their ethical and legal obligations

- uphold professional practice through regular self-appraisal and continuing education
- understand the need to balance personal and professional activities

University Educational Aim 4: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in intercultural communication and global citizenship.

Related to medicine: Identify socio-cultural factors that contribute to the development and/or continuation of poor health and explain how it impacts on individuals and communities

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- integrate knowledge from biological, behavioral and social sciences
- understand the importance of the patient's social and ethnic background
- respect for the individual patient's perceptions and beliefs
- counsel patients, and to give bad news in a supportive fashion
- identify the pattern of disease and disability in Hong Kong and the epidemiology and the wider determinants of health, illness and disease
- comprehend the structure and function of the health care system in Hong Kong, together with the range of community services available
- assess the health care needs of particular groups or communities, and to plan ways of meeting such needs
- appreciate the cultural, economic and technological influences on health and illness and the development of medical understanding and health-care systems in response to changing social contexts
- possess professional attitudes and behavior to patients, colleagues and the community

University Educational Aim 5: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in communications and collaboration.

Related to medicine: Demonstrate the ability to communicate ethically with patients, staff members, peers and other health care professional orally and in writing, elicit and interpret clinical symptoms and signs by interviewing and examining patients systematically and with sensitivity, and to use this information to guide further investigations

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- develop and maintain humane and effective relationships with patients in order to enhance both patient satisfaction and clinical outcome
- develop management plans for patients in conjunction with other professionals
- carry out basic clinical procedures
- understand the importance of the patients' family and friends in the management of illness
- understand the role of traditional/ allied health care providers and community resources

University Educational Aim 6: Benchmarked against the highest international standards, the 4-year undergraduate curriculum at HKU is designed to enable our students to develop their capabilities in leadership and advocacy for the improvement of the human condition.

Related to medicine: Participate in the generation, interpretation, application and dissemination

of significant advances in medical knowledge, apply ethical reasoning in the making of clinical decisions

By the end of the MBBS programme, students should be able to:

- understand a doctor's ethical and legal obligations
- formulate plans of investigation and management that take into account the economic impact of such plans
- understand the importance of public health care policy in the provision of appropriate care to communities and to the maintenance of health and the prevention of diseases
- understand the influence of community structures and economy on health care expectation and delivery
- understand the professional roles and responsibilities of doctors as well as their ethical and legal obligations
- show concern for the welfare of professional colleagues
- teach patients, colleagues and other health professionals

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