ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL COUNCILS OF AFRICA

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE IN MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

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THE ROYAL SENCHI HOTEL, AKOSOMBO, GHANA

HOSTED BY:
MEDICAL AND DENTAL COUNCIL GHANA
INTERNSHIP PROCESS OF MEDICAL AND DENTAL PRACTITIONERS

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

• Internship in the East Africa Community (EAC) Region
  • Kenya
    o Internship Goals
    o Internship Process in Kenya
    o Internship Requirements
    o Responsibilities of an intern
    o Failure to complete internship
    o Consequences of not completing internship
    o Registration after internship
    o Internship Placement Committee
  • Uganda
  • Rwanda
  • Tanzania
• Internship Training in other jurisdictions
INTERNSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

The Members of the EAC Region have come together under the Common Markets Protocol to develop unified guidelines below for Internship Training:

1. Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) for EAC Partner States Medical and dental practitioners’ Boards/Councils
2. EAC internship guidelines for medical and dental practitioners in the EAC Partners States
3. EAC logbook for interns in the EAC Partners States.
4. Checklist for accreditation of internship training centres for medical and dental practitioners and health facilities in EAC Partner States
5. Accreditation/Recognition Certificate for Training Institutions for Medical and Dental Practitioners
INTERNERSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

The Boards and Councils of the EAC Partner States are:

1. Kenya – Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Board
2. Uganda – Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council
3. Tanzania – Tanganyika Medical Council
4. Rwanda – Rwanda Medical and Dental Council
5. Burundi – Burundi Medical Council
The East Africa Community (EAC) Partner States have adopted an almost similar internship program. Student from the approved medical and dental training institutions undergo a 5 to 6 year program after which they proceed for 1-year internship program.

Most of the Partner States have the rotations below:

**Medical**

i. Internal Medicine  
ii. Paediatrics and Child Health  
iii. Surgery  
iv. Obstetrics and Gynecology  
v. Psychiatry

**Dental**

i. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
ii. Prosthetics and Conservative Dentistry  
iii. Periodontology  
v. Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics
INTERNERSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

Kenya

• Student from the approved medical and dental training institutions undergo a 6 year and 4 year respectively- program after which they proceed for 1-year internship program.

• Has 81 Approved Medical and Dental Internship Centres available on www.medicalboard.co.ke

• They rotate through major disciplines as below:

**Medical**

i. Internal Medicine  
ii. Paediatrics and Child Health  
iii. Surgery  
iv. Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Dental**

i. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  
ii. Prosthetics and Conservative Dentistry  
iii. Periodontology  
iv. Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics

Contd....
INTERNERSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

Kenya

• Training, Assessment and Registration Committee (TARC) is responsible for all aspects of medical internship training on behalf of the Board.

• Application for Registration is done upon successful completion of internship and official release by their internship supervisors.

• **Non Kenyans from EAC** are allowed to do medical internship training but will not get permanent registration.

• Foreign Trained doctors (outside the EAC Region) undergo an Internship Qualifying Exam before being allowed to proceed on a 1 year internship.

Contd....
INTERNSHIP GOALS

1. An intern is expected to consolidate his or her knowledge, skills and **attitudes** to enable them be competent medical or dental practitioners.

2. To enable the intern acquire knowledge of commonly used drugs and their rational use, be conversant with the National Essential Drug List and know the dangerous drugs and poisons Act and its application.

Contd....
INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS

• Copy of a Employment letter.

• An Internship Guideline Log Book from the Medical Board (downloadable from www.medicalboard.co.ke).

• Internship license issued by the Board.

NB:

a) An internship license and guideline log book are mandatory requirements before the commencement of internship.

b) It is illegal to undertake internship without and internship license issued by the Board.
RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN INTERN

They include but not limited to the following:-
1. Clerking patients
2. Undertaking relevant investigations
3. Guiding relatives and patients with regards to diagnosis, treatment and follow up.
4. Documenting and updating patients notes
5. Writing accurate and informative case summaries
6. Participating in Continuous professional development activities.
7. Appropriate handing over of patients
8. Reporting to and consulting with the supervisor
9. Maintaining professional demeanor and conduct
10. Participating in tracking of patients
11. Performing any other duty assigned by the supervisor

Contd....
Interns will be subject to the rules of employment with the relevant authorities under which they work.

An intern is deemed to have failed internship under the following circumstances:

a) Professional incompetence which includes:-
   i. Performance below average in knowledge and skills
   ii. Failure to undertake most of the key activities prescribed in the log book.

Contd....
b) Professional and general misconduct including:

i. Negligence in management of patients
ii. Engaging in inappropriate relationships with patients
iii. Abuse of patient confidentiality and trust
iv. Lack of sense of responsibility.
v. Inappropriate dressing.
vi. Lack for respect for patients, the public and colleagues.
vii. Indiscipline such as absence from duty without good cause and reporting late to work.
viii. Substance abuse

Contd....
CONSEQUENCES OF NOT COMPLETING INTERNSHIP

a) Extension of internship period.

b) Discontinuation from the program.

c) Being subject to the Board’s disciplinary process

d) Being subject to the Laws of the Land
INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Inter-Agency committee whose membership comprises of Ministry of Health, the Board and the representatives of Medical and Dental training schools.

Functions
• Identifying available slots in approved Internship Centres
• Placing interns in respective centres after balloting process
• Dealing with matters arising with regards to internship program
• Confirming graduands from various training institutions for internship.

Contd....
INTERNERSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

Uganda

• Student from the approved medical and dental training institutions undergo a 6 year-program after which they proceed for 1 year period internship program.

• The Uganda Medical Interns Committee (UMIC) is responsible for all aspects of medical internship training on behalf of Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council (UMDPC)

• Has Approved Medical and Dental Internship Centres

• Non Ugandans are allowed to do medical internship training in Uganda provided they fulfil the set UMDPC requirements

Contd…. 
INTERNERSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

Uganda

Application for Registration is done upon successful completion of internship and official release by their internship supervisors.

Students undergo through the rotations below spending 3 months in each:

**Medical**

i. Internal Medicine
ii. Paediatrics and Child Health
iii. Surgery
iv. Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Dental**

i. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Oral Radiology
ii. Oral Medicine and Periodontology
iii. Conservative Dentistry
iv. Orthodontics and Pedodontics
INTERNSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

Rwanda

• Student from the approved medical and dental training institutions undergo a 6 year-program after which they proceed for 1 year internship program.

• The Education, Licensing and Registration Committee is responsible for all aspects of internship training on behalf of Rwanda Medical and Dental Council (RMDC)

• Has 22 Approved Medical and Dental Internship Centres

Medical
i. Internal Medicine
ii. Paediatrics and Child Health
iii. Surgery
iv. Obstetrics and Gynecology
v. Psychiatry

Dental
i. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
ii. Periodontology
iii. Conservative Dentistry
iv. Periodontology
INTERNSHIP TRAINING IN THE EAC REGION

Tanzania

- Student from the approved medical and dental training institutions undergo a 6 year-program after which they proceed for 1 year period internship program.
- The Tanganyika Medical Council (TMC) is responsible for all aspects of medical internship training.
- Has Approved Medical and Dental Internship Centres
- They rotate through major disciplines just as indicated earlier
- **Non Tanzanians are** allowed to do medical internship training in Tanzania provided they fulfil the set TMC requirements and get temporary registration upon successful completion.
Brazil

Medical school consists of six years or twelve semesters; the final two years (or one and a half year, depending on the University in question) are said to be the internship. During this time, students will undergo extensive hospital hours and do basic hospital work while supervised by both residents and staff.

Upon conclusion of internship, the student graduates to a doctor, and may then work unsupervised or enter a residency program in order to gain a specialty.

Rotations:

i. Internal Medicine,  
ii. Surgery,  
iii. Gynecology and Obstetrics  
iv. Pediatrics  
v. Emergency Medicine,  
vi. Family Medicine  
vii. final elective period in which the student may choose an area to in which to gain further experience.
Chile

Medical Program takes 7 years, having 5 years as a medical student and 2 years as an intern to obtain the degree of Médico Cirujano (the equivalent of General Practitioner in the USA).

i. Internships Rotations
ii. Internal Medicine,
iii. General Surgery,
iv. Gynecology and Obstetrics
v. Pediatrics

After completing the internship, the new physician may work in primary care, hospitals or apply to residencies for a specialty.
Iraq

Internship after 6 years medical program in hospitals.

The medical intern must finish a period of 3 months in each of the specialities below:

*Rotations*

i. Internal Medicine,
ii. Surgery,
iii. Gynecology and Obstetrics
iv. Pediatrics
v. Psychiatry

Each specialty is given in particular courses of 3 months, after completion of internship doctors are eligible to practice independently.

According to the above definition of internship, interns have a degree but they are not fully licensed to practice medicine unsupervised.
Germany
From 1988 to 2004 provided for medical doctors who wanted legal qualification or license to serve as “Arzt im Praktikum” (physician in internship) for 18 months.
In 2004 this regulation was abolished.
Since then doctors of medicine, who have successfully finished their medical studies, have received legal qualification immediately and the status of assistant doctor when taking up a medical occupation.
India

A: OBJECTIVES OF INTERNSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME:

At the end of training, the Intern shall be able to:

i. Diagnose clinically common disease, make timely decision for referral to higher level.

ii. Use discreetly the essential drugs, infusions, blood or its substitutes and laboratory services.

iii. Manage all type of emergencies medical, surgical, obstetric, neonatal and paediatric.

iv. Demonstrate skills in monitoring of the National Health Programmes and schemes.

v. Develop leadership qualities.

vi. Render services to chronically sick and disabled.

vii. Render specific services to the cases from the tribal and backward regions of the State.

Contd....
Internship Training Programme applicable to the Students passed final year in Jan 2010 & Onwards

Rotations

• Community Medicine 60 Days
• Medicine including 15 days of Psychiatry 60 Days
• Surgery including 15 days Anaesthesia 60 Days
• Obst./Gynae. Including Family Welfare Planning 60 Days
• Paediatrics 30 Days
• Orthopaedics 30 Days
• Ophthalmology 15 days
• Casualty 15 days
• Elective posting (1X15 days) 15 days
• Internship Orientation Programme 05 days

Contd....
Note: Structure internship with college assessment at the end of the internship.

**B: LEAVE FOR INTERNS:**

(i) No kind of leave unless emergency for a maximum of 12 days per year and 6 days leave at a time.

**C: LOG BOOK**

**D: Satisfactory completion shall be determined on the basis of the following:**

1. Proficiency of knowledge required for each case Score 0-10
2. The competency in skills expected to manage each case:
   I. Competency for performance of self performance
   II. of having assisted in procedures
   III. of having observed Score 0-10

Contd....
3. Responsibility, punctuality, work up of case, involvement in treatment, follow-up reports Score 0-10
4. Capacity to work in a team (Behaviour with colleagues, nursing staff and relationship with paramedicals) Score 0-10
5. Initiative, participation in discussions, research aptitude Score 0-10

Poor / Fair / below average / average / above average / excellent 0 2-3 3-4 5-6 7-8 9-10

The assessment will be done by respective head of unit /medical officer and entered in log book itself at the end of posting.
Evaluation of Interns for assessing eligibility for issuing Internship Completion Certificate by Heads of the Medical Colleges:

The evaluation shall be done on or before the completion of the posting in following disciplines:

a. Medicine and Allied Medicine Department
b. Surgery and Allied Surgery Department
c. Obstetrics & Gynaecology Obst.& Gyn. Department
d. Community Medicine Community Medicine Department

Contd....
ARISING ISSUES

• How long should internship take
• What is the most objective way of assessment
• Who should be responsible for the internship…the regulatory authorities or the training institution
• Who should arrange for placement of interns
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THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE IN MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
Good doctors understand responsibility better than privilege and practice accountability better than business.