

**Kuwait Institute for  
Medical Specialization  
Ministry of Health, Kuwait**

Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialization (KIMS) is the authority of the Ministry of Health, State of Kuwait, that is responsible for planning all aspects of postgraduate training of medical and other health professionals in Kuwait. It organizes the internship training of recently qualified medical graduates, and specialty level and continuing education programs for all health professionals.

In fulfilling its aim of providing specialty level training in the different fields of medicine, KIMS has established a number of Faculties and Committees, which initiate and coordinate postgraduate training. They are in Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Family Medicine, Laboratory Medicine, Radiology, Nuclear Medicine, Anesthesia, and Dentistry. This booklet gives an outline of the training program in Dermatology Postgraduate Training Program. Registration in the programs is open to doctors practicing in Kuwait as well to those based in institutions in the other GCC countries subject to availability. Interested readers are requested to contact KIMS, for additional information on the program described here, or for details of other activities organized in the specialty.

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## **AIMS OF THE PROGRAM**

This is a five-year study and training program in dermatology and related specialties. On completion of the program the candidate should possess sound and solid knowledge of principles of dermatology and the technical skills necessary for practice. He/she should be able to diagnose, assess and safely manage Dermatology and STD patients independently

## **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

### **General objectives**

On completion of the program, the candidate must have detailed knowledge and understanding of:

- Sciences basic to dermato-venereology.
- Clinical skills in diagnosing cutaneous diseases (skin, mucous membranes, skin appendages and sexually transmitted diseases) by the use of history, clinical examination and pertinent investigative procedures.
- Cutaneous manifestation of systemic diseases.
- Dermatologic therapy (its pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, side effects and the uses and complications of other therapeutic modalities), Dermatopathology, immunodermatopathology, mycology, and laser surgery.
- Dermatological literature and its analytical and critical interpretation.
- Technical skills of dermatologic surgical procedures and related aspects (knowledge of sterilization techniques, suture materials, post-surgical care) and the use of light therapy and laser treatment.

On completion of the program, the trainee should, in addition, be able to:

- Communicate effectively with patients and their families.
- Understand the patient's psychological, occupational and social needs.
- Understand ethical and medico-legal aspects of dermatology.
- Interact with other health care professionals.
- Update himself/herself through continuing medical education.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

To be accepted in the training program, the applicant has to fulfill the following requirements:

- Possess a medical degree from a recognized university.
- Successful completion of his/her internship year.
- Passed the admission examination and an interview.
- Submit three Recommendation Letters from referees who have supervised the candidate in their departments confirming the suitability of the candidate for training in dermatology.
- Registration at the Kuwait Institute of Medical specialization.

## **PROGRAM STRUCTURE**

At the beginning of the training program each resident will receive information on the objectives of the training program, the method of training and the procedures adopted in supervision and evaluation.

During the period of the training each resident will be assigned to a teaching staff supervisor who will provide guidance and support in all issues regarding the program.

The program comprises five academic years, which are divided as below:

### **PGY I**

The candidate will do one year rotation as follows:

Internal Medicine	6 months
Pediatrics	4 months
Plastic Surgery	1 month
Infectious Diseases	1 month

A minimum of 6 courses of basic sciences relevant to dermatology will be conducted by external faculty staff each year. They will be scheduled as afternoon lectures. Each course will last one week and will be held every two months covering the following topics:

- Embryology, Biochemistry, Physiology and Histology of the skin and mucous membrane.
- Basic immunology as related to skin diseases.
- Basic pharmacology as related to skin diseases therapy.

**PGY 2**

12 months general clinical dermatology

The candidate should participate actively in education by preparing talks, journal clubs and seminars. Study of the basic sciences as afternoon lectures relevant to dermatovenerology.

**PGY 3**

Dermatopathology	4 months
Pediatric dermatology	4 months
General dermatology	4 months

**PGY 4**

General	6 months
Medical dermatology	3 months
Laser surgery and Surgical Dermatology	2 months
Phototherapy	1 month

**PGY 5**

Chief Resident position in:

Dermatopathology	2 months
General dermatology	10 months

Training from PGY2 to PGY5 will take place in outpatient dermatology clinics and inpatient areas under the supervision of clinical tutors.

During the sub-specialist dermatologic rotation, the candidate will do two days clinic in general dermatology.

**METHOD OF EVALUTION**

A regular, continuous assessment and evaluation of the progress of the candidate will be done in the following manner:

- At the end of the each training rotation, the clinical tutors would discuss with the candidate his/her evaluation report and then submit it to the Program director.
- The trainee should pass an examination at the end of each academic year. At the end of each year, the performance of the candidate will be reported to the Board Committee to consider his promotion to the following year.

The residents are encouraged to appear for the American Academy of Dermatology Annual In-training Practice Examination.

## **BOARD EXAMINATION**

The Board Examination consists of two parts:

### **Part I Examination**

The Part I Examination is held once a year, at the end of the third year of the training program. It is a written examination of two MCQ Papers, with each paper of 150 questions allowed 3 hours and an oral examination.

The candidate is considered to have passed if a minimum score of 60% is achieved. If the candidate fails to pass the examination after two attempts the candidate will be dismissed from the program.

### **Part II Examination**

The Part II Examination is held at the end of the fifth year, two years after passing the Part I Examination and having been certified as satisfactory in all reports. The examination will include written, clinical and oral tests, with weightage assigned as follows:

1. 50% of total marks will be allocated to the written examination.
2. 50% will be allocated for the Clinical, Dermatopathology and Oral examinations.

### **Written Examination**

Paper I - MCQ, 2 hours, consists of 100 questions (70%)  
Paper III - Problem – solving in dermatology 1 hour(30%)

The candidate should score a minimum of 60% in each paper.

### **Clinical and Oral Examinations**

Clinical cases (50%)  
Dermatopathology slides (20%)  
Oral Examination (30%)

The candidate is considered to have passed if he/she achieved a minimum of 60% in the written examination and a minimum of 60% in the Clinical, Dermatopathology, and Oral examinations. Candidates who fail are allowed to appear for a Repeat Examination for a maximum of two attempts. And in case he/she fails the examination after two attempts, he/she will be dismissed from the program. External examiners would assess the candidate during the clinical examination.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

Trainees who have satisfactorily completed the rotation program and have passed the Final Examination will be awarded the Specialization Certificate in Dermatology, Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialization (SCD, KIMS), which grants them the privileges of specialists in dermatology.