

Diploma in Family Medicine (HKCFP) 2023 - 2024

The Board is pleased to announce that the Diploma Course in Family Medicine (DFM) organized by The Hong Kong College of Family Physicians will commence in July 2023.

The course consists of FIVE modules. Modules I & II will be delivered by Local Distance Learning. Modules III, IV & V consist of lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and clinical attachments. The whole course requires ONE year of part-time study.

Details of the course are as follows:

1. Objectives:

- i) To provide knowledgeable, pragmatic and structured teaching in Family Medicine for medical practitioners
- ii) To encourage professional development of practising medical practitioners and to provide an intermediate step to fellowship qualifications in Family Medicine
- iii) To improve standards and quality in the practice of Family Medicine

2. *Syllabus:

The course consists of FIVE compulsory modules. Doctors who have graduated from the course are expected to have acquired:

- i) Current concepts about nature of Family Medicine
- ii) Knowledge and skills in consultation, counselling and problem solving
- iii) Knowledge and skills in common practice procedures and emergency care required for good quality family practice
- iv) Understandings towards the role of Family Doctors as gatekeepers of the health-care system and in providing cost-effective primary care to the community

Module I – Principles of Family Medicine (Distance Learning)

Aims:	1. Learn concepts of Family Medicine 2. Understand the role of a Family Doctor and scope of Family Medicine
Contents:	Definition of Family Physicians, Family Physicians' Functions, Core Values of Family Medicine, Consultation, Future of Family Medicine

Module II – Common Problems in Family Medicine (Distance Learning)

Aims:	1. Enhance consultation, communication and problem solving skills 2. Understand the diagnostic formulation process in Family Medicine
Contents:	Four clinical scenarios. Each clinical scenario is further divided into several questions covering different areas in general practice

*Module III - Essentials of Family Medicine (Structured Seminars and Tutorials)

Aims:	1. Strengthen knowledge in Family Medicine 2. Understand the potential growth of Family Medicine 3. Develop research and teaching skills in Family Medicine
Contents:	Practice Management, Care of Elderly, Chronic Disease Management, Anticipatory Care, Clinical Audit & Research, Mental Health, Musculo-skeletal Problems, Evidence Based Medicine & Critical Appraisal

*Module IV - Clinical Updates (Updates and Clinical Attachment)

Aims:	Acquire in-depth knowledge and practical skills in selected specialties
Contents:	<u>THREE</u> update seminars plus ONE attachment in selected specialty

*Module V - Practical Family Medicine (Practical Workshops)

Aims:	Enhance practical and communication skills in Family Medicine by Practical Workshops in selected areas including CPR, Consultation Skills, Counselling Skills, Women's Health, Orthopaedic Injection and Musculo-Skeletal Medicine
Contents:	Four compulsory and two elective Practical Workshops in selected areas including Advanced Primary Care Life Support (APCLS), Consultation Skills, Counselling Skills, Women's Health, Orthopaedic Injection and Musculo-Skeletal Medicine

**Modules III - V would be scheduled on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.*

3. Articulations:

The Course allows (up to a fixed maximum percentage of the Course units) articulations or cross recognition of previous Family Medicine training programmes that provide learning units equivalent to that of the above syllabus. Participants who wish to apply for such articulations have to submit evidence of relevant training together with their applications. The granting of articulations is however, completely at the discretion and decision of the Board of DFM.

4. *Schedule:

The whole course requires ONE year of part-time study.

July to October 2023	Module I
October to December 2023	Module II
July 2023 to April 2024	Module III, IV & V
May 2024	Final Examination

**The schedule might be affected due to unexpected circumstances and the format might change to online platform if necessary. Announcement would further be made in case there is a change of schedule and/or format.*

5. Admission Requirement:

Registered Medical Practitioner with Bachelor's Degree in Medicine.

6. Teaching Staff:

A panel of experienced academic medical professionals in Family Medicine, hospital specialists and experienced Fellows or Trainers of HKCFP will be invited to teach in the programme.

7. Teaching Medium:

English

(Cantonese may be used in some seminars, workshops and clinical attachments)

8. Course Fees:

Whole course:

HK\$42,000 for members of HKCFP

HK\$84,000 for non-members

(A discount of HK\$5,000 for early bird applications on or before 31 May 2023)

Individual Modules:	Members	Non-members
Module I (Distance Learning – Principles of Family Medicine)	\$5,300	\$10,600
Module II (Distance Learning – Common Problems in Family Medicine)	\$5,300	\$10,600
Module III (Structured Lectures & Seminars)	\$5,400	\$10,800
Module IV (Updates & Clinical Attachment)	\$5,300	\$10,600
Module V (Practical Workshops)	\$6,800	\$13,600
Examination	\$13,000	\$26,000
Administration Fee	\$5,000	\$10,000

All fees must be paid upon application and before commencement of the course. Fees paid are NON-TRANSFERABLE and NON-REFUNDABLE.

9. Awards/Credits:

- A Diploma in Family Medicine issued by HKCFP will be awarded to candidates who have satisfied all the requirements and have passed all the required assessments and the Final Examination.
- The Diploma is a **Quotable Qualification** of the Medical Council of Hong Kong.
- Up to 50 CME and 10 CPD credit points will also be awarded to candidates upon satisfactory completion of the Course by the QA & A Committee of HKCFP.

10. Application Procedure:

Applications are now open.

A completed application form must be returned to The Hong Kong College of Family Physicians with the following:

- Photocopy of the current Annual Practising Certificate;
- A recent photo of the applicant (passport size);
- A signed "Disclaimer of Liability";
- An administration fee for application of HK\$1,000 by crossed cheque payable to "HKCFP Education Limited". This fee is non-refundable;
- A Course Fee of HK\$42,000 (or HK\$84,000 for non-members) by crossed cheque payable to "HKCFP Education Limited". This fee is non-transferable and non-refundable.

Every successful applicant will be notified by an official letter of admission.

Information and application forms can be obtained from the College or can be downloaded at the College website (<http://www.hkcfp.org.hk>). Members who were not admitted in the course in 2022 have to send in their application again if they want to study the course this year. Please contact the College secretariat, Ms. Alky Yu at 2871 8899 for any queries.

The eligibility of candidates is subject to the final approval of the Board of Diploma in Family Medicine.

11. Application Deadline: Extended to 15 July 2023

Comments From Former DFM Graduates

- "The Content is useful in daily practice. I can have hands-on practical skills. I can polish my communication skills during the lectures & workshops."
- "I can understand the role of Family Physicians as gatekeepers of health-care system and better know about their role in the society. I also acquire the skills on critical appraisal."
- "There are sessions of clinical updates for updating knowledge. Module I, II & III could help improve my knowledge. Module I, II & III could improve my understanding of Family Medicine. The sessions in consultation are invaluable in improving my communication skills."

**Course syllabus and schedule may be subject to change without prior notification*



APCLS Training Workshop



Women's Health Workshop



Orthopaedic Injection Workshop



Musculoskeletal Workshop