

OVERVIEW OF INTERNSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM AT CoMHS, SQU

INTRODUCTION

Internship, is a junior medical doctor's first position undertaken as an initial step at the beginning of a medical career as a physician after obtaining the MD and is **compulsory** regardless of whatever specialty of medicine will eventually be pursued in the future.

The Internship year is a period of general medical training, building upon the skills that have been acquired at medical school, and learning how they are applied whilst taking increasing but guided responsibilities for patient care and management.

DURATION AND CONTENT

The internship training program is divided into three equal periods of four months in each of the disciplines of General Medicine, General Surgery, and either Child Health or Obstetrics & Gynecology in hospitals approved for the purpose by the College of Medicine & Health Sciences of Sultan Qaboos University.

Most of the Internship rotations involve changing from one hospital to another within the country during the year. This is considered a very beneficial experience of the breadth and depth of health care in the country.

The training should be predominantly of a general nature, and in particular requires the intern to manage acute care cases. During this twelve month period of training the intern must be resident when on duty. The on call duties may vary from one in six to one in four. The general clinical training provides the intern with opportunities to develop basic skills and attitudes necessary for them to embark on postgraduate specialty training.

SUPERVISION

The College of Medicine & Health Sciences will retain the responsibility of ensuring adequate standards of training, experience, and supervision of trainees during their Internship training.

During each of the rotations, the intern is provided with a nominated clinical supervisor by the head of the department concerned. This supervisor will guide the intern during the rotation, will be at least of Consultant status, or other appropriate senior member of the department concerned.

LOGBOOKS

Each intern is provided with a logbook. Since the internship program is based on different hospitals, the logbook serves as a uniform guide to the basic conduct of the intern's duties and the minimum basic skills that must be acquired before an intern can be certified. The logbook must be duly completed and certified by the concerned HoD's at the end of each rotation. It should be submitted to the Internship Program Office, College of Medicine & Health Sciences at the end of the internship year.

ADVANCED CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT (ACLS) COURSE

During the internship year the intern will be required to complete the three-day ACLS course, which is organized by most of the affiliated hospitals. ACLS course is one of the requirements for the issue of a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Internship.

ASSESSMENT

Each intern will be assessed by the clinical department concerned during his/her training period. A sample of the assessment form is appended and these will be completed by the department(s) concerned following both the major rotations and all elective periods. All must be completed satisfactorily, to complete the internship year.

Failure of satisfactory completion in any rotation will require the intern concerned to repeat part or all of the rotation.

An internship certificate of (Satisfactory Completion) will be issued by the College on successful completion of the internship year based on:

- a) Satisfactory completion of the 3 rotations attested by the relevant completed Assessment Forms
- b) Submission of a completed Logbook
- c) Submission of a certificate of successful completion of ACLS course
- d) Submission of the MD certificate

VACATION

During the internship year interns are entitled to a total of 28 days (including weekend and holidays) annual leave from the rotations.

The intern may take a maximum of two weeks leave during any one rotation. All leave must be approved in advance by the head of department and the Assistant Dean of Training & Community Services. Total of 5 days academic leave is allowed during the year. Sick leave will be deducted from the annual leave balance. Maternity leave of 50 days must be compensated by 50 days after finishing the internship program. The intern may not take annual leave during an elective rotation.