

Proposal for MD Psychiatry Curriculum

Department of Psychiatry

All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalyani



Department of Psychiatry at AIIMS Kalyani aspires to achieve a benchmark at the national and international level in clinical service, academics and research. To achieve this the department is establishing state-of-art clinical services, research infrastructure and is already participating in undergraduate MBBS teaching. In her quest for excellence as a mandate of the institute the department aspires to establish post-graduate courses in psychiatry (MD). The department proposes the following goals:

- i) To train post-graduate trainees at the highest level of clinical excellence pertaining to the needs to the community and society.
- ii) To train post-graduates in an environment of academic excellence so that they can be true teachers of tomorrow thereby training others to narrow the huge mental health treatment gap.
- iii) To train post-graduates in both basic and newer advances in research thereby fostering a milieu of innovation and true scientific rigor.

The main philosophy of the training program will be competency based and outcome oriented with specified modalities of training. The specific objectives of the curriculum as per American College of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) are:

- **Practice-Based Learning and Improvement:** The resident is expected to master common clinical, research practices and continue a process of learning during residency and thereafter.
- **Patient Care and Procedural Skills:** Excellence in patient care in the specific socio-cultural milieu will be the backbone of the training as well as proficiency in common procedural skills.

- **Systems-Based Practice:** The resident needs to develop a deep understanding of the health-system milieu and foster leadership skills to modify it for developing a community based holistic system of care.
- **Medical Knowledge:** Proficiency in medical knowledge at the highest level commensurate with the national and international standards.
- **Interpersonal and Communication Skills:** The resident is expected to deliver the highest level of competency in terms of interpersonal and communication skills both with patients, family members, care-givers and other health care providers alike.
- **Professionalism:** The resident is expected to display the highest level of professionalism as per clinical and ethical standards of working as a single mental health professional in his immediate milieu in view of the huge mental health gap in the country as well as in a multidisciplinary team.

Syllabus: The training will be based upon different competencies identified divided in the domains of leaning namely cognitive, affective and psychomotor skills developed through standard modes of training and leading to discrete, observable and measurable milestones of learning and outcome. Both horizontal and vertical integration will be followed wherever feasible within and across the speciality. See Annexure 1

Learning modality:

The principles of andragogy will be followed. The main emphasis of the training will be on community-based patient-centered learning under the guidance and mentorship of the faculty members. The training will involve the following regular case discussions in the out-patient, in-patient and community with faculty members and senior residents will be the bed-rock of the training.

The focus will be not on initial or emergency assessment and management but on the long-term, comprehensive holistic care. All such cases will be recorded in the log-book and will be considered for the summative assessment. Apart from this, formal academics will also be encouraged in the form of:

1) **Seminars:** Periodically seminars will be conducted where the resident will study a pre-decided broad area, critically elaborate it under the mentorship of a faculty and moderated by a senior resident. The performance will be both peer, supervisor and other faculty-rated which will contribute to the overall summative evaluation.

2) **Case-conference:** The resident will take up an individual case for presentation under the guidance of a faculty member and assisted by a senior resident. The focus needs to be mentioned before the presentation like psychopathology demonstration, both short-term and long-term management. In this the evaluation will be based upon both the style, content, analysis and critical thinking as judged by peer and expert (faculty) feedback which will be carried forward in the summative assessment.

3) Journal Club:

Journal clubs will presented periodically by residents based upon some relevant articles as decided by concerned faculty members. The candidate is required to critically evaluate the paper under guidance of a deputed faculty.

4) Tutorials:

Tutorials will be conducted periodically where the resident will present a topic of interest in brief moderated by a senior resident. It will preferably be a topic with some practical relevance.

- 5) **Psychotherapy forum:** In these postings psychotherapeutic management of patients will be discussed in details done under the supervision of faculty members. At least 100 hours of structured psychotherapy as per departmental protocol is mandatory and should be incorporated in the log-book.
- 6) **Routine lectures:** Routine lectures will be scheduled by faculty members on broad areas
 - newer teaching methods like flipped class-room model will be introduced while conducting the lectures. Traditional one-way lecturing will be avoided and mostly case based interactive teaching will be followed.
- 7) **Special lectures:** Guest faculty from other reputed institutes who are stalwarts in their field will be invited time-to time.
- 8) **Research methodology course:** Residents are mandated to undergo research methodology studies undertaken by department medical research unit and relevant courses before they undertake the thesis work.
- 9) **Special visits:** Once in a semester, special visits may be organized to NIBMG, IISER and other academic institutes/ DMHP centres, and therapeutic community visits as part of the curriculum with clearly defined goals and objectives.
- 10) **Institutional academics:** Residents are mandated to undertake institutional academics and grand rounds.

Course duration: 3 years duration (selection and other eligibility will be determined as per institutional policy)

Postings:

The candidate will be posted as per the following schedule in the three year schedule (36months):

General Psychiatry OPD-9 months

General Psychiatry IPD - 12 months

Neurology- 3 months

Consultation Liaison Psychiatry - 2 months

Community and telepsychiatry-2 months

Neurostimulation-1 months

Addiction-2 months

Child – 2 months

Geriatric and neuro-psychiatry- 1 months

Psychotherapy and psychology -1 months

Mental hospital posting for forensic and rehabilitation psychiatry-1 months

Emergency posting- This will be through the entire tenure as per rules followed by the institute.

Since AIIMS Kalyani is a developing department, some of these postings may be combined and will depend upon the resource available within the department.

Thesis:

For the fulfillments of the curricula, the candidate is supposed to complete the thesis protocol presentation within the first 6 months which will be followed by data collection and completion of the thesis 6 months prior to final examination that is at the end of the fifth semester. Thesis submission is mandatory for appearing in the examination and for mandatory fulfillment of the degree. In this regard all rules pertaining to the institute will be followed.

Scheme of Assessment:**I. Formative assessment:**

It will be based on day to day observations by the faculty members

- i. Clinical Work
- ii. Documentation
- iii. Initiatives to learn
- iv. Any extra-curricular initiatives taken for the growth/benefit of department

II. Periodic assessment:

During first 5 semesters examination will be held at the end of last month of semester.

- i. Semester examination will be held at the end of each semester.
- ii. Examination shall consist of theory and practical; 100 marks each.
- iii. Theory examination shall consist of structured questions aimed at assessment of assimilation of subject's knowledge.
- iv. Practical examination will be conducted that will consist of case-presentations. It will be aimed at assessment of practical and communication skills.
- v. One long case shall be given. It will weigh 50% of the total marks for practical examination.
- vi. Remaining 50% weightage shall be given to viva voice relevant to the syllabus of the semester.
- vii. Critical and constructive feedback will be provided after each examination.

III. Final Professional Examination:

- i. It will include syllabus from all semesters.
- ii. Examination shall consist of theory and practical cum viva-voce, 400 marks for theory and 400 for practical.
- iii. Theory examination shall consist of four papers (100 marks each), each of 3 hours duration.
 - i. Paper I. Basic sciences relevant to the subject.
 - ii. Paper II. Clinical Psychiatry.
 - iii. Paper III. Subspecialties of the Psychiatry and Neurology
 - iv. Paper IV. Recent advances related to the subject.

Theory examination will consist of structured long and short answer questions aimed at assessment of assimilation of subject's knowledge.

- iv. Practical examination will be conducted that will consist of case-presentations and viva voice.
 - i. One long case from General Psychiatry or its sub-specialties (100 marks) and two short cases (50 marks each) shall be given, with one short case from Neurology and one with relevance to Psychiatry practice with preference to Consultation Liaison Psychiatry.
 - ii. Remaining 50% weightage shall be given to viva voice relevant to the syllabus.
- v. Evaluation panel will consist of two internal examiners and two external examiners. Selection of internal and external examiners will be done following the prevailing policies of the institute.

Eligibility Criteria to appear for the MD Examination:

- i. **Attendance:** Minimum 80% attendance is required to be eligible for Final M.D. examination
- ii. To present one poster and one paper presentation at a Conference
- iii. To submit at least one research paper. The article considered for publication should be approved by faculty members of the department
- iv. Data should have been collected during the training period

b. Semester Examinations:

- i. The candidate must secure at least 50% marks in theory and 50% marks in practical in all of the semester examinations combined. This is required to be eligible to appear for the final examination

c. Thesis acceptance

- i. To appear in examination, submission of thesis is required.
- ii. The Thesis must be accepted by external reviewers, before awarding the degree.
- iii. Acceptance of thesis and eligibility for final exams

d. Recommendation from the Department

Department will provide in writing a certificate of good standing of the candidate for being eligible to appear in the professional examination.

e. Criteria for passing MD examination: AIIMS shall conduct examination at the end of 3 academic years for M.D. course and shall conduct not more than 2 examinations in a year, with an interval of not less than 4 and not more than 6 months between 2 examinations.

To pass, a candidate must obtain: -

- i. 50% of the total marks in theory examination 50% in each of the papers individually or as aggregate of all the papers
- ii. 50% of the total marks in practical and Viva-voce examination.
- iii. A candidate must pass in both the heads at one and in the same attempt. A candidate passing in one head and failing to pass in the other head will be declared fail and shall not be entitled to any exemption in the subsequent attempt.

f. Declaration of Distinction:

A successful candidate passing the examination in first attempt will be declared to have passed the examination with distinction, if the grand total aggregate marks is 75% and above. However, distinction will not be awarded for candidates passing the examination in more than one attempt.