

Revised Guidelines for Consideration of Quotable Qualifications
(With effect from 1 April 2006)

The List of Quotable Qualifications (the List) is maintained by the Medical Council of Hong Kong (“the Council”). Inclusion in the List is approved by the Council on the recommendation of the Education and Accreditation Committee (“the EAC”). These guidelines are set out to facilitate the processing of applications for inclusion in the List.

Objectives of Quotable Qualifications Scheme

1. The objectives of the Quotable Qualifications Scheme are:-
 - (a) To give recognition to the basic medical education which is required for registration as a medical practitioner in Hong Kong.
 - (b) To give recognition to further training which significantly enhances the professional expertise of the medical practitioner.
 - (c) To provide information to the public as to additional medical training of significance received by the medical practitioner.
 - (d) To provide information to medical practitioners as to additional medical training of significance received by other medical practitioners to facilitate decisions on referral of patients.

Factors to be considered for Quotable Qualifications

2. The following factors are basic requirements which must be fulfilled before a qualification is considered for inclusion in the List:-
 - (a) A qualification should satisfy fully the spirit of the provisions of the Professional Code and Conduct (to be retitled to ‘Code of Professional Conduct’ upon promulgation of the updated Code under revision) regarding communication in professional practice.
 - (b) The training should be:-
 - (i) directly related to medical practice;
 - (ii) at post-graduate level;
 - (iii) of a standard accepted by the EAC; and
 - (iv) of at least 6 months of full-time structured and supervised training or study (part-time or distance learning courses may be accepted if in the opinion of the EAC the duration and quality of training are equivalent to a 6 month full-time course).

- (c) The qualification should be acquired after formal assessment by a recognized medical body. Alternatively, the qualification should be independently vetted (e.g. by external examiners) by a recognized medical body.
- (d) For a taught postgraduate programme, it should meet the following reference standard of contact hours:-
 - (i) Postgraduate Diploma programme or its equivalent: 200 hours
 - (ii) Master programme or its equivalent: 400 hours

Contact hours refer to lectures, tutorials, practicals, case study, supervised research study, supervised dissertation writing, etc.. (*Amended on 12 July 2016*)

3. For the purposes of these guidelines, a recognized medical body means:-
 - (a) a tertiary education institution which provides medical education recognized by the Council to be of equivalent standard to the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Hong Kong or the Chinese University of Hong Kong; or
 - (b) a post-graduate medical institution of equivalent standard to the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.
4. An applicant can only make an application for inclusion in the List after he has been conferred with the qualification. (*Amended on 2 May 2012*)
5. Master of Surgery (MS), Doctor of Medicine (MD), and honorary higher medical qualifications conferred by a recognized medical body will generally be accepted for inclusion in the List. Other master or doctoral degrees conferred by a recognized medical body shall be considered individually, depending on their relevance to medical practice.
6. The Council and the EAC may also consider other relevant factors arising in the particular circumstances of each case.