

4 The Licentiate Committee and the Licensing Examination of Medical Council

- 4.1 The Licentiate Committee (LC) established by the Council is responsible for administering and running the Licensing Examination for non-local medical graduates. It is also responsible for the assessment of interns during the period of supervised training.
- 4.2 The Licensing Examination was introduced to replace the Licentiate Scheme with effect from 1 September 1996. Upon passing the Examination and completion of the prescribed period of internship, a person will be eligible for full registration as a registered medical practitioner.
- 4.3 The Licensing Examination is held annually and consists of 3 parts:-

Part I

Examination in Professional Knowledge - a multiple-choice questions paper, set in both Chinese and English, on professional subjects including medicine, surgery, orthopaedic surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, psychiatry, medical ethics/community medicine and basic sciences.

Part II

Proficiency Test in Medical English - a written professional English paper to test candidates' proficiency in medical English.

Part III

Clinical Examination - an examination to test candidates' ability to apply professional knowledge to solve clinical problems, in which candidates will be examined in medicine, surgery (including cases on orthopaedic surgery), obstetrics and gynaecology, and paediatrics. Candidates may answer in English, Cantonese or Putonghua.

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4.4 Candidates who have passed all 3 parts of the Licensing Examination will normally be required to undergo a 12-month internship training programme in hospitals accredited by the Central Internship Committee of the Hospital Authority. During this period, an intern will work under supervision in the following disciplines:-

- medicine
- surgery
- orthopaedics and traumatology
- obstetrics and gynaecology
- paediatrics
- geriatrics
- psychiatry

4.5 The membership of the LC (as at 31 December 2004) was as follows:-

Professor LEONG Chi-yan, John, OBE, JP (Chairman) (from 4 February 2004 onwards)

Dr CHAN Man-kam

Dr CHAN Pui-kwong

Professor CHAN Yan-keung, Thomas

Dr CHIN Kien-howe, Robert (from 1 October 2004 onwards)

Professor HO Pak-chung

Professor LAI Ching-lung

Dr LAM Lo-kuen, Cindy

Professor NG Ho-keung

Dr TAM Lai-fan, Gloria, JP

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4.6 To discharge the respective functions of the LC, a total of five Sub-Committees have been set up:-

(a) Examination Sub-Committee

(Chairman : Professor NG Ho-keung)

- responsible for conducting the Licensing Examination and certifying passes and failures in the examination

(b) Internship Sub-Committee

(Chairman : Professor HO Pak-chung)

- responsible for the assessment and supervision of interns during the period of supervised training

(c) Credentials Sub-Committee

(Chairman : Dr TAM Lai-fan, Gloria, JP)

- responsible for considering and determining the eligibility of the applicants for sitting the Licensing Examination

(d) Exemptions Sub-Committee

(Chairman : Dr CHAN Man-kam)

- responsible for considering and granting applications for exemption from various parts of the Licensing Examination and part of the internship training

(e) Review Sub-Committee

(Chairman : Mr Erik SHUM)

- responsible for considering and determining applications for review from candidates aggrieved by the decisions of other sub-committees regarding the examination and/or internship training

4.7 In 2004, the LC and its sub-committees held a total of 4 meetings. Details of the results of the Licentiate Examination since its inception in 1977 and the Licensing Examination since 1996 are shown in **Table 7** and **Table 8** respectively.