

Summary of Outline of Postgraduate Diploma in Primary Care for the Elderly at Sunway University

(i) Programme Aims (PA)

The programme aims to provide graduates with the advanced knowledge and skills in Geriatric Medicine to deal with the increase in global population aging and increased complexity in the field of medicine towards developing medical practitioners who are competent, skilled with a caring and holistic approach in managing older patients.

(ii) Programme Educational Objectives (PEO)

Within a few years upon successfully completing the program, our graduates will:

1. apply knowledge, understanding and practical skills to deal with physical, medical, functional, social, and psychological issues of older persons.
2. serve the community ethically and professionally.
3. lead and work collectively to communicate and address health and social issues of the older persons critically and scientifically.
4. initiate or manage programs or services through continuous development of knowledge and skills (public or private).

(iii) Programme Learning Outcomes (PLO)

After completion of the programme, graduates will be able to:

PLO 1	Acquire fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the major concepts and theories of ageing in geriatric medicine
PLO 2	Apply appropriate clinical competencies to address holistically the physical, medical, functional, social, and psychological issues of older persons
PLO 3	Engage in respectful, reciprocal and mutually-beneficial ways with people at the local, national and/or global levels to advocate for and advance health and well-being of older persons.
PLO 4	Commit professionally, ethically and with humane responsibility in line with the field's code of conduct
PLO 5	Communicate effectively, accurately and professionally with others in the capacity of a leader and advocate for the older patient.

PLO 6	Practise intellectual curiosity, analytic, problem-solving and decision-making skills when dealing with issues that affect older persons.
PLO 7	Manage information and engage in life-long learning and professional development
PLO 8	Demonstrate managerial and entrepreneurial skills when providing solutions to issues pertaining to older persons

Curriculum Design and Delivery

This is a one-year long-distance practice-based learning program delivered online with identified subject modules (attached Appendix 1)). Weekly face-to-face (ie live) teaching sessions are held at least once a week via a bespoke Blackboard elearn online platform.

The program consists of a total of 7 compulsory modules/subjects and 1 elective subject given to candidates online (attached Appendix 2)

There will also be weekend onsite face-to-face workshops at Sunway University campus once every 12 weeks.

Students are required to do Clinical attachments (CA) at pre-identified centres with an officially appointed geriatrician to be the local site supervisor for a minimum of 3 days every 6 weeks

The aims and objectives of the CA are as follows

- Opportunities to have access to geriatric pats w clinical problems eg dementia
- Opportunities to learn from patients
- Opportunities to be taught and to acquire and practice needed clinical skills eg assessing instability
- Opportunities to have access to geriatric services
- Opportunities to have access and learn from rehab, occupational and physio depts
- Opportunities to participate in team-based care for older adults
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Mode of delivery for CA

- 3 days per module (6 weeks) Total 3 days x 8 mod=25 days in the year
- attached under supervision of an appointed geriatrician at nearest local site/hospital
- can be grouped together eg 6 days at a go every 3 months
- best time to do clinical attachment is agreed upon w local geriatrician
- Shadow geriatrician, join ward rounds, outpat clinic, clerk pats and present

- Participate in team discussion

Assessment of Clinical Attachment

- Each module needs to be assessed
- Carries 10% of the continuous marks
- Rubrics for the CA assessment will be provided
- Optimal will be for geriatrician (supervisor) to do the evaluation/assessment online on the elearn

Overall Assessment:

A. Continuous Assessment (40%)

- MCQ
- Written assignment
- Log book
- Clinical attachment

B. Final Exam (60%)

- Written MEQ
- OSCE