## Medical Internship training in South Africa 2020 and beyond

A transformational plan for health service delivery

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#### Introduction

The South African medical internship programme integral part of the health care system ensures service delivery trains newly qualified medical graduates.

Current two year medical internship programme introduced in 2006/7 accredited facilities across the country in the public sector.

## Regulatory frame work

- HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT 56 OF 1974
- REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE REGISTRATION AND TRAINING OF INTERNS IN MEDICINE
- Published under Government Notice R 57 in Government Gazette 25938 of 23 January 2004.
- The Minister of Health has, in terms of section 61 (1) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), in consultation with the Health Professions Council of South Africa, made the regulations in the Schedule.

## **History**

- Internship was first introduced as part of medical training in South Africa in the 1950s.
- The original aim of internship was to assist young graduates to obtain hands-on experience under supervision in approved hospitals.
- In 1999, One year of internship was followed with a year of compulsory remunerated community service in designated health facilities

## **History**

- Changed to a two year internship period from 2006.
- Concern over the adequacy of training in the various specialities Introduction of a five year medical degree at various universities.
- Psychiatry later made an independent domain

#### Present structure

Four months each of Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Paediatrics

Three months of Family Medicine

Two months each of Anaesthesia and Orthopaedics

One month of Psychiatry.

#### Governance

MDB of HPCSA

**METC** 

Training facility and Provincial departments of health

**Guideline Document** 

Log Book

Accreditation process

### Objective for 2020 and beyond

Review of internship post distribution

Consider new model/s of internship training competency based apprenticeship

strengthen primary health care

manage increased supply (local and IMG)

use of entire health platform for training

assist in the realization of the national human resource plan for health

### **Stakeholders**

National Department of health
Provincial Departments of Health
South African Military Health Services
Faculties of Health Sciences
SAMA/JUDASA and other interested groups
National and Provincial treasuries
HPCSA
Private Sector

#### **INTERNSHIP ACCREDITED POSTS: JAN 2019**

No	Province	Accredited posts	No of Facilities
1	Eastern Cape	318	4
2	Free State	216	5
3	Gauteng	1182	17
4	Kwazulu Natal	956	10
5	Limpopo	222	8
6	Mpumalanga	144	4
7	Northern Cape	66	1
8	North West	228	4
9	Western Cape	564	12
Total	South Africa	3896	65

# HPCSA Decision on medical internship 2020 and beyond

Internship period to remain 24 months

Extended training in the primary health care platform

Equal emphasis on preventative and promotive care along with curative care

Out put of the programme :Competent general practitioner

Monitoring and evaluation system to be developed

## **New training model**

Rotation within tertiary, regional and or large district hospital (departmentalised facility) for 18 months

and district hospital ,CHC and primary health care clinics for 6 months

## **Training model**

18 month rotation in the differentiated facility

The rotation in the departmentalised facilities (differentiated facility) will

focus in training of core clinical skills

Internal Medicine: 3 months

General Surgery: 3 months

Obstetrics and Gynaecology: 3 months

Paediatrics and Neonatology: 3 months

Orthopaedics : 2 months

Anaesthesia : 2 months

Psychiatry : 2 months

## **Training model**

6 month rotation in the district health platform(Family Medicine/Primary Care)

Led by the Department of Family Medicine Includes outpatient, emergency and acute care for adults and children, chronic care, theatre training, preventative and promotive care including immunisation, community outreach etc.

Exposure to basic Urology, ENT, Ophthalmology

New logbook

Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics and O&G are done in the first year and the rest in the second year

# Time lines for accreditation of new training complexes

2nd May 2019: National HR Meeting: presentation of process of accreditation

21 May: Task team to submit proposals on accommodation for interns to HPCSA via NDOH

31 May: Individual training complexes to submit the accreditation forms to the respective province

7th June: Provinces to submit the accreditation forms of all institutions within each province to NDOH

14th June: Submission of all applications by NDOH to HPCSA

10th July: METC meeting: Update of processes

18th & 19th July: Assessment of applications towards accreditation and redesign of log book and guidelines

2nd August: METC recommendation to Board

7 th August: Exco of MDB to finalise accreditation and inform NDOH

## Internship accredited posts: January 2020

No	Province	Accredited posts	No of Training Comp	New District Hosp	CHC/PHC
1	Eastern Cape	432	3	7	9
2	Free State	276	5	8	22
3	Gauteng	1592	16	12	64
4	Kwazulu Natal	1128	10	21	110
5	Limpopo	340	7	8	17
6	Mpumalanga	200	5	5	11
7	Northern Cape	80	1	1	6
8	North West	344	5	11	38
9	Western Cape	660	12	13	38
Total	South Africa	5052	64	86	315

### Challenges

Equipping the district health care platform by 2021

Human resource allocation

Training capacity

Equipment

Package of Services

Availability of consumables, pharmaceuticals etc

Transport

Accommodation

#### **Summary**

Transformational model

Expansion of Quality Health Care Services

Expansion of the teaching platform

UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

thank you