Medical Internship training in South Africa 2020 and beyond

A transformational plan for health service delivery

Prof Binu Luke
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 framework

• 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 specialties
  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
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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
- Output 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
7th August: Exco of MDB to finalise accreditation and inform NDOH
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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