

**CMC, VELLORE: DEPARTMENT OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**  
**PGDFM PROGRAMME: FAQ'S**

1. **Question:** What is the name of the degree awarded on completion of the course? Can I make use of it for my practice?  
**Answer:** *On successful completion of the PGDFM course, the candidates are awarded a diploma – not a degree – titled ‘Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine’. Such candidates can append ‘PGDFM (CMC, Vellore)’ to their qualifications.*
2. **Question:** Is the PGDFM recognized by any University / MCI?  
**Answer:** *There is no statutory medical body that recognizes distance education courses in our country. The MCI recognizes only residential courses. The 'Post Graduate Diploma in Family Medicine' course that we offer is a distance education programme, and as such the MCI recognition is not applicable to it.*
3. **Question:** Will holders of the PGDFM be considered for admission to MD course in Family Medicine? Will the duration of the MD course be cut short for holders of the PGDFM?  
**Answer:** *PGDFM, by itself, does not guarantee the holder admission to the MD programme; neither does the holders get any exemption for the course duration. However, the PGDFM will greatly enhance your performance in any advanced course in the line.*
4. **Question:** When will the examinations be held? What is the syllabus for the exams?  
**Answer:** *The examinations are scheduled to be held on the last two days of the last contact programme in a calendar year – this is usually in the month of Nov/Dec. The format for the examination is as follows:  
Theory: 100 marks: Held at the end of each year; Questions – objective type – will be set only on the topics dealt with in the course booklets and the video-lectures presented.  
Practicals: 100 marks: Held at the end of each year; As the cases handled by candidates vary from centre to centre, the practical examinations will be set on the respective long and short cases taken at the centres.  
NOTE: To be eligible to sit for the examination, a candidate should have satisfied the minimum attendance requirements – 70% each for the contact classes and video-lectures – and should be current with the submission of assignments.*
5. **Question:** How many case histories should we write in our log book?  
**Answer:** *Log books are written on the long and short cases discussed during the contact programme. Ideally candidates are expected to record all the cases discussed. However, candidates should record a minimum of 10 long cases and 5 short cases per contact programme.*
6. **Question:** What happens if I miss one contact programme?  
**Answer:** *As per the regulations candidates should have 70% attendance from the total of 3 contact programme. This means that, during the two-year period, a candidate should have attended about 21 days of contact programme out of the total number of 30days.(10days X 3Sessions)*

7. **Question:** What is the schedule followed on a typical contact programme day?

**Answer:**

<b>8.00 A.M. to 9.00 A.M.</b>	<b>- 1<sup>st</sup> Video-lecture and tele-conference</b>
9.30 to 11.00 A.M.	- 1 <sup>st</sup> case study session,
11.30 A.M. to 1.00 P.M.	- 2 <sup>nd</sup> case study session
1.00 to 2.00 P.M.	- Lunch break
2.00 P.M. to 3.30 P.M.	- 3 <sup>rd</sup> case study session
<b>4.00 to 5.00 P.M.</b>	<b>- 2<sup>nd</sup> video-lecture</b>

*Note: Video-lectures will be held exactly as per the schedule shown here; the schedule for case studies, however, may vary slightly from centre to centre.*

8. **Question:** Is there any upper age limit for admission to the PGDFM course?

**Answer:** *No.*

9. **Question:** How can I enroll myself for the PGDFM Course? How can I receive a copy of the prospectus and application form?

**Answer:** *Please log on to [www.home.cmcvellore.ac.in](http://www.home.cmcvellore.ac.in) ; click on the link to 'PG Diploma in Family Medicine' given under JOBS & TRAINING and then on Prospectus or application form as you require. All details reg. the next batch commencing in Jan. 2009 is given in the prospectus.*

*However, if you do not have access to the internet, please send a DD for Rs.200/= payable at Vellore payable to CMC Vellore Association, and then we shall send a copy of the Prospectus and Application Form to you.*