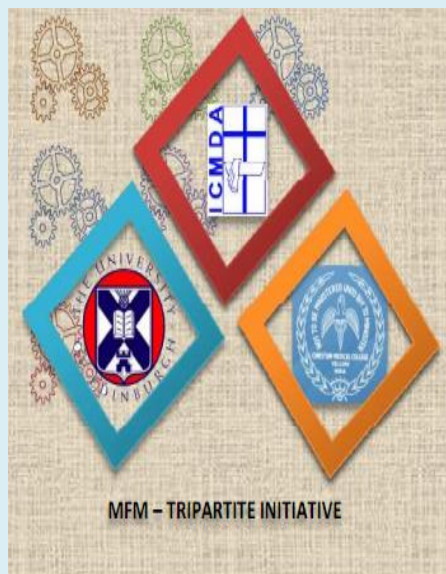


April 2015

The Online Masters in Family Medicine is a joint distance education initiative by the **Distance education Unit of Christian medical College (CMC), Vellore, India; International Christian medical and Dental Association (ICMDA) and University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.** The 2 years blended learning curriculum is designed to hone distinct family physician attitudes, skills and knowledge that qualify the physician to provide continuing, comprehensive medical and preventive care to families and the communities. The “refer less, resolve more” motto of the course, sharing historical roots to family practice is a step towards cost effective, patient centered, problem oriented, evidence based , global health care delivery system.



The overall course objective is capacity building of Family Physicians, to efficiently -

- ✚ *manage more cases and avoid unnecessary referrals - fulfilling the 'Refer less, Resolve more' motto.*
- ✚ *serve as patients' first point contact, especially in limited resource setting, rural areas.*

Tripartite initiative – an overview

International Christian Medical and Dental Association

ICMDA and their global members strive to meet the global rural medical needs by actively serving in mission hospitals. Their partnership opens up channels to convene professionally and spiritually primed **family physician trainers** who can **facilitate practical sessions** of the Online Masters in Family Medicine. ICMDA also shares the responsibility to aid in **marketing, provide student support and mentorship.**

University of Edinburgh (UoE), Scotland, UK,

UoE with the vision set to strive for improved global health has entered in alliance contributing to the **online academic platform** of the Masters in Family Medicine. Founded in 1583, the University has held high academic standards, ranking as one of the world top 20 Universities. The University has the lead responsibility of **student selection, registration and granting the academic award.** As one of the institutions from the developed nations, with established framework for primary care, the University stands as a firm background for capacity building of family physicians in developing countries.

Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, India

CMC with its scope to enthuse spiritual healing through excellence in education, service and research, shares the responsibility **to provide theoretical and practical modules** of the Masters in Family Medicine. Pioneering in training doctors on campus since 1918, CMC broadened its pedagogical reach with the establishment of the Distance Education Unit in 2004. The Post Graduate Diploma in Family medicine, offered on distance education mode since 2006, has become highly sought by Indian and international medical practitioners. Distance Education Unit of CMC, with their substantial **Family Medicine curriculum and mentorship**, forms the academic backbone of the Online Masters in Family Medicine.

Official MOU signing on 23Feb 2015



(From left to right) - Ms. Mei-kwei Barker, Director, British Council, South India, Dr. Alfred Daniel, Principal, CMC Vellore, Dr. Vinod Shah, CEO, ICMDA, Prof. James Smith, Vice Principal International, University of Edinburgh, Dr Raman Kumar, President Academy of Family Physicians of India, Dr. Liz Grant, Assistant Principal, Global Health Academy, University of Edinburgh



Master of Family Medicine – aspires to...

- ⚙ Deliver strong base in Family medicine principles
 - Including patient centeredness, comprehensive, whole person care
- ⚙ Update and widen clinical knowledge and skills with a Family Medicine based focus
 - With improved ability to diagnose and treat common illness at the undifferentiated stage with minimal essential investigations
 - Improved ability to include all age group and offer cost effective patient care
- ⚙ Orient the graduate to algorithmic approach to illness/disease
 - With awareness of evidence based protocols for management
- ⚙ Strengthen bioethics and values
- ⚙ Advance collegial networking
 - Enhancing ability to coordinate and ensure continuum of patient care
- ⚙ Develop awareness of existing health promotional activities and encourage active participation
- ⚙ Motivate and improvise problem solving in resource poor settings
- ⚙ Enthuse competent medical record keeping and data management
- ⚙ Develop health educators who can communicate and train team and community members

Course description

The Online Masters in Family Medicine is a blended distance education initiative that delivers the following constructs- **The theoretical component** offers updated, Evidence based clinical and Family Medicine principles oriented ethical, problem solving modules via the online platform. The e-module includes student interactive sessions via forum discussions; **the practical contact program** – three, 11 days face to face sessions, over 2 years, which is designed to hone some of the basic, hands on clinical skills and to facilitate collegial networking among participating international family practitioners. The contact sessions include multiple activities adapted to enhance adult learning. The centers where such sessions are conducted are envisioned to become ‘platforms for change’ with special focus on ethics, rational prescribing, improved consultation skills, and cost effective, compassionate patient care. The course instructors and facilitators are motivated international Family Medicine faculty aspiring to bring about candidate transformation on grounds of professional and ethical patient care. For the course completion, a dissertation project and 1 month internship are included.

PROGRAM UPDATES

MFM 2014

Faculty Development Workshop

Yearly Faculty development workshops are held by Distance Education department Unit, CMC, Vellore to train Family medicine Contact program facilitators and local coordinators. Dr. Adenike Adeniran, local coordinator of the Nigerian Regional center for the MFM contact program, enthusiastically participated in the workshop during Jan 16th and 17th, 2015.



Faculty Development Workshop, Vellore, India

First Contact Program – MFM 2014

Currently the Online Masters in Family Medicine has 19 candidates, enriched by the first year theoretical e-modules and are looking forward to participating in the face to face contact program sessions for updating their clinical skills and more...

The candidates are from Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Uganda, Kenya, Taiwan, Indonesia, India and few others visiting from Canada and Scotland. This year the sessions are conducted in 3 regional centers

1. Christian Medical College, Vellore, India
2. Bowen University Teaching Hospital, Ogbomoso, Nigeria
3. Mengo Hospital, Kampala, Uganda

CONTACT INFORMATION

More to know...

To know more about

- Course participation eligibility
- Scholarship opportunities
- How to apply...

Please visit <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/global-health/family-medicine>

For enquiries email to mfm.icmda@gmail.com family.med@icmda.net



MFM 2014 candidates attending the First Contact Program

Wishes and Prayers,
ICMDA, Vellore, India