

**THE TAMIL NADU Dr. M.G.R. MEDICAL
UNIVERSITY,
69, ANNA SALAI, GUINDY, CHENNAI - 600 032.**



Regulations, Syllabus & Guidelines
FOR
POST - DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME
IN
NEURO PSYCHIATRY

CONTENTS

<u>S.NO.</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1.	PREAMBLE
2.	SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT
3.	AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
4.	DURATION OF THE COURSE
5.	ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION
6.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
7.	AGE
8.	ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE
9.	MIGRATION CERTIFICATE
10.	CONDONATION OF BREAK OF STUDY
11.	RE-ADMISSION OF THE BREAK OF STUDY
12.	NO. OF ATTEMPTS PERMITTED FOR EXAMINATION
13.	ADMISSION
14.	SELECTION OF CANDIDATES
15.	COMMENCEMENT OF THE COURSE
16.	CURRICULUM
17.	REGISTRATION
18.	SCHEME OF EXAMINATION
19.	EXAMINATION PATTERN
20.	ATTENDANCE
21.	MINIMUM / MAXIMUM MARKS, PRACTICA / CLINICAL / ORAL & INTERNAL ASSESSMENT MARKS
22.	EXAMINATION
23.	CLINICAL EXAMINATION HOURS
24.	PRACTICAL EXAMINATION
25.	EXAMINATION CENTRE
26.	STIPEND
27.	LOG BOOK
28.	PROJECT
29.	PROGRAMME DIRECTOR
30.	VACATION

The Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai.

REGULATIONS FOR

POST - DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES IN NEURO PSYCHIATRY

1. PREAMBLE :

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 44 of the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai Act 1987 (Tamil Nadu Act 37 of 1987) the Standing Academic Board of the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai hereby makes the following Regulations for Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry.

2. SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT :

The course shall be called as “**POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME IN NEURO PSYCHIATRY**” of the Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University, Chennai.

This shall come into force from the academic year 2015 - 2016.

The regulations framed are subject to modification from time to time by the Standing Academic Board.

3. AIM AND OBJECTIVES :

Keeping in view the explosion of knowledge in modern medicine, the University introduces a series of Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programmes in different disciplines (speciality or sub - speciality), wherein suitable candidates will be imparted training in the concerned area.

These Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programmes aims that the candidate gets exposure in the concerned disciplines with particular emphasis on their clinical skills. The course is meant to give intensive hands - on clinical training with periodic evaluation by experienced teaching staff.

The Post -Doctoral Fellowship programmes offered by this University cannot be equated with DM / M.Ch.

4. DURATION OF THE COURSE :

The Duration of the Courses is 1 year.

5. **ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION :**

- a. Candidates who have passed Medical Post Graduate degree Course recognized by the Medical Council of India are eligible to join in **POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME IN NEURO PSYCHIATRY**. This includes D.M. (Neuro.) / DNB (Neuro.). One year Post - PG experience is not required for admission to this course.
- b. The Ph.D. in the concerned speciality is not considered to be eligible to apply for the Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry.
- c. Candidates who have obtained P.G. degree from any recognized University, within India, but outside the state of Tamil Nadu will have to produce Migration Certificate from their qualifying University. No Objection Certificate issued by the National Board of Examinations, New Delhi, is equivalent to Migration Certificate.
- d. The candidates shall obtain Eligibility Certificate before the cut off date for admission in that particular Academic year.

6. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA :**

D.M. (Neuro.) / DNB (Neuro.) candidates are eligible for the Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry.

7. **AGE :**

No upper Age limit fixed for admission to Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry.

8. **ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE :**

Candidates who have passed the qualifying examination as stated in Regulation No.6 above other than the Tamil Nadu Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai shall obtain an "Eligibility Certificate" from this University by remitting the prescribed fees along with the application form and required documents before seeking admission in any one of the affiliated Medical Institutions. The application form is available in the University website: www.tnmgrmu.ac.in.

9. **MIGRATION CERTIFICATE :**

On completion of Post – Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry, Migration Certificate will not be issued.

10. CONDONATION OF BREAK OF STUDY :

The Break of Study for a period of less than 90 days can be condoned by the Course Director and the Break of Study for the period of more than 90 days and less than one year is to be condoned by the University authorities. The application form is available in the University website: www.tnmgrmu.ac.in.

11. RE-ADMISSION OF THE BREAK OF STUDY :

1. The course shall be completed within the period of double the duration from the date of admission.
2. The Regulation for Re-admission are as per the University's common Regulation for Re-admission.

12. NO. OF ATTEMPTS ALLOWED FOR EXAMINATION:

The candidates of 1 year Post – Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry, shall be allowed for a maximum of three attempts within a period of two years including the first appearance.

13. ADMISSION :

The admission for the Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry is twice in a year (i.e.,) 1st January and 1st July.

- (a) Admission upto 31st January - 28th February is the last date for Registration.
- (b) Admission upto 31 st July - 31st August is the last date for Registration.

An Institution can admit max. Two (2) students per year for Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry i.e either in January / July sessions or 1 candidate for each session (January or July). However, the total number of candidates per institution per course shall not exceed Two (2) per year.

14. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES :

The candidates for the Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry, can be selected by the centers on their own and the selection to be transparent.

- a. The candidates selected by the Institutions will become bonafide student of this University only after registration.
- b. The Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programmes of the Affiliated Institutions will be published in the University website.

15. COMMENCEMENT OF THE COURSE :

The one / two years Post - Doctoral Fellowship Programmes will commence on 1st January & 1st July of every year and the candidates are expected to get registered with this University within 30 days of their selection by the Affiliated Institutions. (i.e. 28th February & 31st August).

16. CURRICULUM :

The Regulation, Guidelines, Curriculum and the Syllabus for the Post – Doctoral Fellowship Programmes is prescribed in these regulations are subject to modification by the Standing Academic Board from time to time.

17. REGISTRATION :

A Candidate admitted into ‘**POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME IN NEURO PSYCHIATRY**’ under any one of the affiliated institutions of this University shall register his / her name with this University by submitting the prescribed application form for registration duly filled in, along with the prescribed fee and a declaration in the format to the Controller of Examination of this University through the affiliated institution within 30 days from the cut-off date prescribed for admission. The application should have the date of admission of the course.

18. SCHEME OF EXAMINATION :

Commencement of examination for the Post – Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry is on any day within the calendar month of January / July. The examination will be conducted with one internal Examiner i.e. **the Course Director who is the Convener of the examination and Two External Examiner of which One from Government & One from Private Institution.** The maximum age limit for the examiner is 70.

19. EXAMINATION PATTERN :

There is **no theory** examination for the Post Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry. The Institution must have periodical assessment on the performance of the students by maintaining a log book.

20. ATTENDANCE :

90% attendance is mandatory to become eligible for the examination and will be certified by the Course Director.

21. MINIMUM / MAXIMUM MARKS FOR PRACTICAL / CLINICAL / ORAL & INTERNAL ASSESSMENT :

The Examination pattern is as follows :

Exam	Maximum	Minimum
Practical	100	50
Orals / Viva	100	50
Internal Assessment	100	50
Log Book	50	25

The log book will be assessed by Examiners during the Clinical Examination. Projects presentation is mandatory and 25% of IA is for the project.

22. EXAMINATION :

There is No Theory Examination. Only Clinical Examination & Viva will be conducted.

A candidate who undergoes the Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry shall satisfy the required eligibility criteria to appear for the Examination.

23. CLINICAL EXAMINATION HOURS :

The Clinical Examination will be conducted between 9 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

24. PRACTICAL EXAMINATION :

Minimum 10 and Maximum 20 OSCE Stations will be given for examination (Objective Structured Clinical Examination).

Internal Assessment marks and attendance are to be submitted to the University one month before the Examination.

25. EXAMINATION CENTRE :

In case of more than one Centre conducting the same Course, the Examination Centre will be decided by the Controller of Examinations of this University and the Course Director of the Centre will be the Convener of the examination.

26. STIPEND :

The University will not give any stipend to the candidates admitted for Post-Doctoral Fellowship Programme in Neuro Psychiatry, and the University will not interfere, if the private institutions are willing to give a stipend to the candidates admitted under them.

27. LOG BOOK :

The Log Book shall be verified by the Course Director periodically and should be submitted to the examiners at the time of examination for evaluation and only the marks to be sent to the University for result processing.

Submission of Log Book is compulsory to appear for University examination.

If the examiners suggest minor corrections and resubmission of the Log Book, the results of the candidates shall be with held and the Log Book shall be resubmitted by the candidate within three months. The Log Book shall be revalued by the same set of examiners and after getting approval, the results of the candidate shall be published.

28. Project :

Project should be submitted at the end of the year and it carries 25% of marks in the internal Assessment.

29. PROGRAMME DIRECTOR :

Must have 15 years of work experience with a teaching experience of 10 years and must possess Diploma / Fellowship / Ph.D. in the concerned field.

Programme Director should be responsible for

1. Journal Club
2. C.M.E. Programmes.
3. Internal Assessment
4. Hands on Training
5. Knowledge about complications.

30. VACATION :

There is no vacation.

POST-GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN NEUROPSYCHIATRY

The aim of this post-graduate fellowship is to provide training in neuropsychiatry, based on a holistic, bio-psycho-social model. The International Neuropsychiatry Association has defined neuropsychiatry as "a field of scientific medicine that concerns itself with the complex relationship between human behavior and brain function, and endeavors to understand abnormal behavior and behavioral disorders on the basis of an interaction of neurobiological and psychological-social factors. It is rooted in clinical neuroscience and provides a bridge between the disciplines of Psychiatry, Neurology and Neuropsychology". Neuropsychiatric disorders are those characterized by cognitive, behavioral, or affective disturbance resulting directly from brain insult. Neuropsychiatry as a specialty deals with disorders that are not amenable to either purely psychiatric or neurological approaches. The very definition implies a holistic, bio-psycho-social approach, which is the philosophy underlying the proposed curriculum for the one-year post-graduate fellowship in Neuropsychiatry. The curriculum has been developed based on recommendations, training programmes and syllabi of professional neuropsychiatric associations at the national and international levels. These include the United Council for Neurological Subspecialties (UCNS), which regulates the accreditation and certification of clinicians in neurological subspecialties in the U.S.A; the International Neuropsychiatry Association, the British Neuropsychiatric Association (BNPA) and the American Neuropsychiatric Association (ANPA).

The Institute of Neurological Sciences at the Voluntary Health Services Medical Centre (TINS- VHS) is uniquely positioned to provide post-graduate training in neuropsychiatry. Keeping up with global trends in neuroscience and clinical neurology/neuropsychiatry, the department was quick to realize the value of allied medical services in an integrated approach to patient care. Involving the clinical psychologist, medical social worker, physiotherapist, dietician and special nurse in the clinical research and academics of the department has resulted in a holistic, bio-psycho- social model of patient care.

This includes training in clinical neurology for National Board of Examination candidates in internal medicine, intensive courses in educational activities of TINS- VHS clinical and research aspects of neuroscience, several annual workshops featuring eminent national and international experts each year. For the last eight years, the Institute has been teaching the clinical neurology component for the M.S. Neuroscience Course of the Dr A. L. Mudaliar Institute of Basic Medical Sciences, Madras University. The contribution of TINS- VHS to education in neuroscience has been recognized by the Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, with the establishment of a Ph.D. course in Neuropsychiatry, Biomedical Neuroscience and Disability and Health Outcomes and since January, 2011, 5 Ph.D scholars are pursuing their research study in the department.

CURRICULUM

The curriculum will consist of:

- I. Principles of Neuropsychiatry**
- II. Clinical Neuropsychiatric Assessment**

I. Principles of Neuropsychiatry

Principles of Neuropsychiatry will provide a review of functional neuro-anatomy, a thorough grounding in the principals of neuropsychiatry and address the emotional, motivational and cognitive consequences of focal neurological injury and of Neuropsychiatric syndromes. The materials will be covered over the course of 1 year, with 320 hours divided into weekly 8 hour sessions. Each session will comprise of didactic lectures, clinical case presentations and demonstrations, interactive student seminars and a journal club, where students will be trained in critical evaluation of original research articles. Fellowship candidates will have the opportunity to interact with M.S and Ph.D. students carrying out research in biomedical sciences, neuroscience, neuropsychiatry, disability and rehabilitation.

The syllabus will consist of:

1. Introduction to neuropsychiatry: domains of emotion, action and cognition
2. Emotional, motivational and cognitive consequences of focal neurological damage due to cerebrovascular injury, trauma or tumours.
3. Emotional, motivational and cognitive features of neuropsychiatric syndromes
 1. Developmental disorders, including attention-deficit and disruptive behavior disorders, learning, communication, and motor skill disorders, developmental disabilities, mental retardation, Autism and pervasive developmental disorder.
 2. Epilepsy (e.g., primary and/or secondary generalized and/or partial seizures, Gastaut-Geschwind interictal personality syndrome, non-epileptic seizures).
 3. Disorders of aging: age-related cognitive changes, Alzheimer's and fronto-temporal dementia, geriatric depression, diffuse Lewy body disease, Traumatic brain injury
 4. Central nervous system infections (e.g., HIV, neurosyphilis, Lyme disease, herpes encephalitis, prion encephalopathies).
 5. Toxic exposures/ingestions Metabolic disorders, including solid organ failure and transplantation and inborn errors of metabolism (e.g., adrenoleukodystrophy, phenylketonuria).
 7. Neuroendocrine disorders (e.g., hypo- and hyperthyroidism, diabetes mellitus)
 8. Headache (e.g., tension-type, migraines, cluster)
 9. Acute and chronic pain
 10. Impulse control disorders (e.g., intermittent explosive disorder, aggression/rage due to neurological/medical conditions, hypersexuality, self-injurious

behavior).

11. Somatoform disorders (e.g., somatization, conversion disorder)

12. Substance abuse and dependence

The topics will be divided into modules. Each module will cover the clinical features with reference to the underlying neural systems, aetiopathogenesis, diagnostic tools and treatment. Lectures will be given by faculty and guests, who will include neurologists, psychiatrists, neuroscientists, physiotherapists, psychologists and psychiatric social workers, who will provide a holistic view.

II. Clinical Neuropsychiatric Assessment

Fellows will receive comprehensive training in clinical examination, which will include neurologic and mental status examinations, cognitive testing, electrophysiological testing, and neuroimaging, development of differential diagnosis, crisis intervention and referral for psychological and physical rehabilitative therapies. This will be done by attending the out-patient clinic and the 40-bed Neurology In-patient ward and long-term neurorehabilitation ward under supervision. Fellows will maintain a detailed log-book of all the patients they have interviewed, aimed at publication of case series or case reports in peer-reviewed journals. The Clinical and Lecture components will be co-coordinated as far as possible; i.e., Fellows will assess patients with epilepsy during the epilepsy module.

Fellows will be trained in carrying out neuropsychiatric assessment, which will consist of the following stage: Neuropsychiatric Interview, Investigative techniques & Specialized Assessments and Treatment Plan. Fellows will carry out each stage with a definite goal in mind.

I. Neuropsychiatric interview

Fellows will be trained in neuropsychiatric history taking, elementary neurological and mental state examination. They will be exposed to various neuropsychiatric, neurological and psychiatric rating scales that are used for screening of neuropsychiatric disorders. At the end of Phase J, they should be able to develop preliminary neurobehavioral and neuropsychiatric differential diagnoses.

II. Investigative techniques & Specialized Assessments

In this phase, Fellows will be exposed to various investigative procedures in order to learn to select the most appropriate techniques and interpret the findings. These procedures will include structural and functional neuroimaging, electrophysiology and standard laboratory tests. Based on the clinical findings, Fellows may refer patients to other allied health specialists for assessment; for e.g., a patient with subjective complaints of memory impairment who performs poorly on screening tests of memory may be referred to a neuropsychologist for a detailed memory assessment.

At the end of Phase 2, Fellows should be able to relate clinical findings to structural and functional neuroanatomical correlates, refine the diagnosis based on various investigations and results. Fellows should be able to develop a preliminary treatment plan and identify prognostic indicators. Fellows should be able to present both verbally and in writing, clinical impressions and recommendations derived from the comprehensive clinic assessment to the patient, the family and other clinicians

III. Treatment Plan

Fellows in Neuropsychiatry will be exposed to various therapeutic options, to help them develop clinical competence in the prescription, monitoring and review of these options. These will include:

A. Therapeutic uses, benefits, side effects, and risks associated with psychotropic and neuropharmacologic agents commonly used in the care of patients with neurobehavioral and neuropsychiatric disorders.

B. Knowledge of the indications and contraindications for the use of electroconvulsive therapy and neurosurgical procedures (i.e., ablative procedures, deep brain stimulators, vagus nerve stimulators, etc.) and other somatic therapies (e.g., transcranial magnetic stimulation) in the treatment of patients with neurobehavioral and neuropsychiatric disorders.

C. Knowledge of and indications for psychosocial interventions used in the care of patients with neurobehavioral and neuropsychiatric disorders

D. Knowledge of physical and occupational rehabilitation.

At the end of this Phase, Fellows should be able to co-ordinate treatment provided by other health care professionals, review the progress of the patient and evaluate the efficacies of the therapies administered.

EVALUATION:

Principles of Neuropsychiatry: Fellows will be evaluated based on attendance of lectures, participation in discussion sections of lecture material, presentations and participation in the journal club. It is expected that at the end of the course, Fellows will be able to comprehend and identify neuropsychiatric symptoms and syndromes and discuss their underlying mechanisms in terms of altered functioning of neural networks. It is expected that Fellows will develop an analytic, empirically grounded, critical and evidence-based approach towards neuropsychiatry.

Clinical Neuropsychiatric Assessment: Fellows will be evaluated based on attendance of ward rounds, out-patient clinics, case presentations and maintenance of the logbook.

The Logbook should contain the following details for every patient:

1. Interview
2. Neurological Examination
3. Mental State Assessment

4. Neuropsychological screening

5. In-depth assessment as indicated

6.Details of investigative procedures, including MRI images

7.Clinical Formulation that summarizes the above details, provides differential diagnoses, refines the diagnosis, outlines a treatment plan, identifies prognostic indicators and provides a plan for follow-up.

SUGGESTED TEXTBOOKS: A selection of textbooks in Neurology, Neuropsychiatry,

Psychiatry & Psychology published since 1990 that are available in the TINS- VHS

library is attached.