

## NEUROLOGY — D M

### 1. PREAMBLE

D M (Neurology) course is designed to train candidates in the principles and practice of Neurology to equip them to function as faculty/consultants in Neurology.

### 2. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

For admission to D M (Neurology) course, a candidate is required to possess MD/DNB degree either in Medicine or in Paediatrics of an Institute/University recognized by the Medical Council of India.

### 3. DURATION OF THE COURSE

Three academic years.

### 4. METHOD OF SELECTION

The selection of candidates for admission to D M (Neurology) course is to be made on the basis of an entrance examination both in theory and clinical assessment held by the Institute/University. The selection should be based on merit only.

### 5. AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE COURSE

The aim of the course is to impart thorough and comprehensive training to the candidate in the various aspects of the specialty to enable him:

1. to function as Faculty/consultants in the specialty
2. to plan and set up independent Neurology Unit catering to clinical and investigative Neurology
3. to carry out and help in conducting applied research in Neurosciences.

### 6.1. TEACHING METHODS

During the period of training the candidates follow in-service training-cum-residency programme. He/she works as a Senior Resident and is given gradually increasing responsibility in decision making

process in the clinical and investigative aspects of Neurology and its allied specialties such as Neuroanatomy, Neuropsychiatry, Neuropathology, Neurophysiology, Neurochemistry, Neuroradiology, Neuroanaesthesiology, Neurorehabilitation and Neurosurgery.

The day-to-day work of the trainees is supervised by the Consultants of the department of Neurology. The posting is so organized that the trainee gets posted in various areas of the department like OPD, wards, laboratories etc. He/She participates in the consultation service provided by the department to the Institute.

Besides in-service activities a programme of bedside demonstrations, seminars, tutorials, group discussion, workshops, journal clubs and lectures is also organized.

## 6.2. TEACHING PROGRAMME

The following teaching schedule is prescribed for the course:

The Outpatient service	- 3 days a week
Major ward rounds	- 3 days a week
D M Seminars	- Once a week
Journal club	- Once a week
Neuroradiology (teaching session)	- Once a week
EEG/EMG etc.	- Once a week

Teaching of M D Medicine, Psychiatry, Physiology, Rehabilitation Medicine & Pediatrics residents by the D M students if available, is part of the training.

### **Neurosurgery**

During the Neurosurgery posting which is for one month, the candidate is required to attend all the operations and see for himself/herself, the surgical techniques. Postoperative care and complications and selection of cases for surgery are also taught.

### **Neuroradiology**

The trainee is made conversant with the technique and interpretation of carotid/vertebral angiography, pneumoencephalography, Myelography, CT scan and MRI scan. All these investigations are taught under the guidance of a neuroradiologist during one month. Neuroradiology investigations are conducted every day in the Radiology Department.

1. Regular Neuroradiology posting - 1 month
2. Weekly sessions - once a week

### **Neuropathology**

Brain cutting sessions are held once a week. During the one month posting in the Neuropathology, the candidate is imparted training in special staining procedures and interpretations of the histopathological sections.

### **Neurophysiology**

The resident is imparted training in the technique of application of EEG/EMG/evoked response electrodes. He/She learns to detect various types of artifacts in the EEG and evoked response results. He also learns the handling of EEG/EMG and evoked response machines, under the guidance of technical assistant and the consultants. During the first year of the course, training is imparted in the interpretations of nerve conduction studies, EMG, evoked response and ultrasound studies. He/she is taught the interpretation of EEG records and reports under the guidance of senior colleagues and consultants in the beginning and independently in the second year of training.

The trainee is made well conversant with each and every aspect of known knowledge about Neuroanatomy, Neurophysiology, Neurochemistry, Neuroradiology, Neuropharmacology and Applied Neurology by the end of two year training. Related neuropathology and neurosurgery is also taught through bedside, teaching rounds lectures, seminars and group discussions.

### **Neuropsychiatry**

One month posting in the Psychiatry department.

## **7. PERIOD OF POSTINGS IN VARIOUS UNITS, DIVISION/ DEPARTMENTS**

The trainee will be posted in different specialities as follows:

Neurology	- 2 yrs.
Clinical Neurophysiology	- 4 months
Neurosurgery	- 1 month
Neuropathology	- 1 month
Neuroradiology	- 1 month
Neuropsychiatry	- 1 month
Research Exp.	- 1 month (optional)
Neuro. Anaesthesiology	- 15 days
Elective posting	- 2½ months

## **8. ASSESSMENT**

Regular two internal assessment both in theory and clinical should be made for every candidate. Internal assessment will be made in day-to-day work of the trainee who involves patients' care, learning bedside case presentation and research.

### **Research**

The trainee shall be required to undertake research and write papers under the guidance of consultants.

The candidates will have to submit a proposal/topic for project work within three months of the joining of the course. The work period for the project will for 1½ – 2 years. Papers from the project should be accepted for publication in an indexed journal. Another article as the first author should also be

submitted for publication in an indexed journal before the candidate appears in the final D.M. Neurology Examination.

The candidate whose project/research work has not been accepted may be permitted to re-submit within not less than 6 months and not more than one year after rejection.

## 9. FINAL EXAMINATION

*Eligibility:* The candidate will be allowed to appear after three years of training.

*Board of examiners:* Neurologists with minimum of 8 years of teaching experience in the specialty.

*Theory papers:* There shall be three theory papers with the following titles:

1. Basic sciences as related to Neurology
2. Clinical Neurology
3. Investigative and recent advances in Neurology

*Clinical, Practical and viva voce:* One long case and two short cases are given to the candidates and the discussion thereon lasts 30-40 minutes in each case. Additional spots/cases also may be shown. The candidates are also given EEG, pathology specimens, histology slides and X-rays to be interpreted. Viva is also held. Two examinations are held each year in the months of May and December. The examination should last for 2 days.

## 10. NEUROLOGY CURRICULUM

- a) Every institution undertaking post-graduate training programme shall set up a curriculum Committee under the Chairmanship of the HOD, which shall work out the details of the training programme in their department in consultation with other departmental faculty staff and also co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of this programme. The training programme shall be updated as and when required.
- b) Post-graduate students shall maintain a Log Book of the work assigned to them.