University of St Andrews - School of Medicine Handbook

The BSc (Hons) Medicine Programme, like all medical courses, is having to adjust to the challenging and ever-changing situation resulting from the coronavirus pandemic. For academic year 20-21 planning is therefore somewhat unpredictable and the information available even at the time of revising this and the related year guides we know they will be subject to some changes. The academic team is seeking to maintain a programme as close as possible to that intended but obviously we are required to maintain safety for all and align placements with changes to NHS services. Any changes are minimised as far as possible and approved through due process within both schools' and where relevant universities' quality assurance systems. Please be tolerant and work with us to provide you with the best opportunities we can by following guidance and behaving professionally. We are supported by an extensive network of NHS staff but their first responsibility must always be patient care. We will do our best to communicate any changes with you clearly and effectively.

MD3000

1. **Junior Honours (Level 3000)**. The organisation of topics within the Honours modules differs from the Foundations year in that the curriculum is systems based. Study is focussed on the normal function and structure of each system, followed by the disease processes associated with each system, and their treatment. In Junior Honours, in parallel with this core component of the module, students are involved in Clinical Medicine on a weekly or fortnightly basis. This programme aims to give a deeper understanding of the social determinants of health and experience of the different roles of health-related professionals within the NHS.

MD3001

2. This is the first of the Honours modules and covers the cardiovascular and respiratory systems in depth. The cardiovascular system is covered in the first six weeks, and the respiratory system is taught between weeks 7 and 11. Both systems are taught following the general order of normal structure, normal function, abnormal, and treatment, and are supported by dissection and clinical skills relating to each system. Throughout the module, students are also taught health psychology, communication skills and medical ethics which are not system-based. The clinical medicine placements will be a mixture of virtual and face to face placements, including potential GP and community hospital attachments (where possible to do so). Full details are available via Galen and in introductory sessions in orientation week. Assessment of the module is via both written exams and a practical anatomy exam. There is a mid-semester assessment at the start of week 6 which contributes 25% to the module mark. The end of semester assessment occurs in the December diet of exams and contributes 75% to the module mark.

MD3001 Cardiovascular & Respiratory Cardiovascular Respiratory Structure Function Treatment Structure Function Treatment Medical Ethics, Health Psychology, Global Health Clinical Skills and Clinical Medicine 1 2 3 5 6 7 8 10 11

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3. This module is the second Honours level module. Unlike previous modules MD3002 covers three separate bodily systems and their interactions; they are the Gastrointestinal system, the Renal system and the male and female Reproductive systems. In line with the other Honours modules, systems are dealt with separately and begin with the normal structures associated with the system. This material is presented by using a series of lectures linked with closely related dissection classes. In this way the students are able to consolidate information from lectures in a practical way.

Intermingled with normal structure are lectures and practical classes covering the normal functions of the system, as well as some of the interactions between these this system and others covered previously. This fundamental knowledge is used later in the module when the students begin to examine various disease states and clinical situations. One ever popular practical class involves creating new life in the laboratory using gametes from locally sourced echinoderms as well as providing important practical experience of testing urine specimens for hormones related to conception and pregnancy in humans.

Throughout the module is a clinical strand which serves to provide practical experience of the clinical procedures associated with the GI, renal and reproductive systems as well as to reinforce other skills such as communication in a system sympathetic manner. As part of the Clinical Medicine strand students are assigned, where possible, placements in community settings, alongside virtual placements where required, where they gain valuable experience of how the knowledge and techniques they learn in the Schools' controlled environment, translate to the real practice of clinical medicine.

Health Psychology, Global Health, Communication Skills and Medical Ethics are all strands which run through the whole curriculum in which material relevant to the system being taught is introduced at strategic points in the semester. These are often used to explore contemporary issues and are frequently updated. Health Psychology explores the way patients feel about illness and their approaches to treatment, Global health provides a backdrop to the problems of selected Global disease, as well as specific regional problems such as alcoholism in Scotland. Communication skills form an integral part of the clinical skills suite and Medical Ethics helps students take a balanced, evidence based view of topics including IVF, Global Health and Complementary and Alternative medicine.

MD3002 G.I. Renal and Reproduction

Gastrointestinal system				Renal system			Reproductive system		
S truc	cture	Function	Treatment	s	F	т	S tructure	Function	Treatment
Medical Ethics, Health Psychology, Global Health									
Clinical Skills and Clinical Medicine									
1	2	3	4 5	6	7		8	9	10 11