



Drafted and printed by the Board of Study in Paediatrics
and the Postgraduate Institute of Medicine,
University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO



**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF MEDICINE OF SRI LANKA**

**Regulations and Guidelines
for**

**MD Paediatrics
Diploma in Child Health**

2008

15

CONTENTS

	Page
MD in Paediatrics	
01. Introduction	1
02. Objectives	1
03. MD Paediatrics Selection Examination	2
04. Stage I of the training programme	3
05. Stage II of the training programme	4
06. Stage III of the training programme	5
07. Progress report	5
08. Formal Evaluation	6
09. MD Paediatrics Examination	6
10. Stage IV of the training programme	7
11. Stage V of the training programme	7
12. Sub Speciality training	8
13. Recognition of training units	9
14. Research Project	10
15. Board Certification	11
16. Eligibility for Board Certification with foreign qualifications	12
17. Interpretation and amendments	12
18. Appraisal based postgraduate training	13
19. Lateral Entry Route Map	19
Diploma in Child Health	
01. Introduction	14
02. Objectives	14
03. Eligibility	15
04. Training course	17
05. Examination	17
06. Evaluation	18
07. Award of Medals	18
08. Award of Diploma	18
09. Interpretation and amends	18
General Regulations of the PGIM	18

In accordance with the decision of the Board of Study in Paediatrics, and the approval of the Board of Management of the PGIM, this Prospectus, curriculum and training programme in Paediatrics became effective from 01st June 2008.

REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR MD PAEDIATRICS

1. INTRODUCTION

The following is an outline of the programme of training and examination leading to the degree of MD Paediatrics and to Board Certification as a specialist in General Paediatrics and allied specialities. The programme will consist of five (5) supervised stages of training and two (2) examinations.

2. OBJECTIVES

At the end of the training programme the trainee should have acquired adequate knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable him/her.

- (a) to have a comprehensive knowledge of health and disease from conception through birth, infancy and childhood to adolescence.
- (b) to be competent in diagnosing and managing Paediatric problems in a global setting with special reference to diseases that are prevalent in Sri Lanka.

For this purpose the trainee should

- 2.1 have an understanding of and be competent in the principles and practice of clinical methods in order to be capable of identifying, analysing and managing patients efficiently and humanely.
- 2.2 be able to take preventive and/or promotive measures to improve the health and well being of infants and children.
- 2.3 acquire competence in teaching and training undergraduates, postgraduates and para-medical workers in Paediatrics and child health.
- 2.4 be motivated to conduct clinical, laboratory and/or health systems research.
- 2.5 be able to function as a member of a team delivering child care services and be competent to assume leadership when required.

3. MD PAEDIATRICS SELECTION EXAMINATION

3.1 Eligibility for entry to MD Paediatrics Selection Examination will be

Prospective applicants must satisfy the following requirements.

- (a) A medical degree registered * with the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
- (b) Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
- (c) Satisfactory completion of one year of post internship in Medical/Clinical practice in a university/public/private sector institution in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM.
- (d) The criteria prescribed in paragraphs (a) to (c) must have been satisfied by the applicants as at the date of closure of applications,
provided that where a short-fall has occurred due to any reasons including Sick, Maternity or Other leave, the doctor concerned should complete such shortfall in order to become eligible to apply for the Selection examination.
- (e) Completion of six months of continuous service experience in Paediatrics as “first on call” medical officer, either during internship or after wards, which should be within a 5 years of the closing date of applications.
- (f) Any other requirement/s stipulated by the Board of Study relevant to a particular field of study concerned that has/have been approved by the Board of Management.

* foreign nationals who seek to apply to register for selection examinations should possess a medical degree registrable with the Sri Lanka Medical Council. The decision of the Board of Management will be final in all such applications.

A quota for the private sector is presently available for most courses.

For MD Selection Examination there is no restriction to the number of attempts.

3.2 MD Paediatrics Selection Examination will consist of 2 components.

Component 1: Will consist of a paper with Multiple Choice and Best of Five type of questions.

Component 2: Will consist of an Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)

This will be held within 3 months of the MCQ paper for those successful in component 1.

3.3 Entry into the training programme leading to the MD Paediatrics examination will be determined by

- (a) The standard reached at both components of MD Paediatrics Selection Examination
- (b) The number of available training posts.

4. STAGE (I) OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

4.1 Trainees should enter the Stage (I) training programme within a period of 3 years after passing MD Paediatrics Part I examination.

4.2 Stage (I) of the training will consist of 12 months of supervised in service training as a Registrar in any one of the following Teaching/General / Base Hospitals
Anuradhapura
Badulla
Kalutara
Kurunegala
Matara
Rathnapura,
or any other hospital recognised by the Board of Study in Paediatrics.

4.3 Description of the stage (I) training programme

These 12 months will consist of

- 4.3.1 6 months of General Paediatrics and **3 months** of Neonatology.
- 4.3.2 During these 9 months the trainee should undertake on call duties on a rotation of at least one in three.

- 4.3.3 Community Paediatric Training.
- 4.3.4 Day release programme.
- 4.3.5 Three months of short appointments.

During this time a trainee would follow a programme arranged to gain experience in the following sub specialities.

Neuro-psychiatry and developmental paediatric
Paediatric Surgery
Paediatric Cardiology
Paediatric Dermatology
Child Psychiatry
Paediatric ENT surgery
Paediatric Nephrology
Paediatric Radiology
Paediatric Rheumatology & Rehabilitation
Paediatric Orthodontics
Paediatric Oncology & any other relevant sub speciality.

5. STAGE (II) OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

Stage (II) of the training programme will consist of 12 months of supervised in service training as a Registrar in Paediatrics in any one of the following Teaching Hospitals.

Teaching Hospital, Colombo North
Teaching Hospital, Colombo South
Teaching Hospital, Karapitiya, Galle
Teaching Hospital, Kandy
Teaching Hospital, Peradeniya
Teaching Hospital, Jaffna
General Hospital, Sri Jayawardanepura or any other hospital recognised by the Board of Study in Paediatrics.

5.1 Description of the stage (II) training programme

These 12 months will consist of

- 5.1.1 9 months of General Paediatrics
- 5.1.2 **3 months** of Neonatology inclusive of 6 weeks of neonatal intensive care at Sri Jayawardanepura Hospital or Teaching Hospital, Karapitiya, Galle.

- 5.1.3 During these **12 months** of the trainee should undertake on-call duties on a rotation of at least one in three.
- 5.1.4 Community Paediatric Training.
- 5.1.5 Day release programme.

6. STAGE (III) OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

This will consist of 12 months of supervised in service training as a Registrar at the Lady Ridgeway Children's Hospital, Colombo.

6.1 Description of the Stage (III) of the training Programme

- 6.1.1 **Twelve (12) months of General Paediatrics at Lady Ridgeway Hospital.**
- 6.1.2 During the 12 months of the trainee should undertake on-call duties on a rotation of at least one in three.

7. PROGRESS REPORT

- 7.1 During stages (I), (II) and (III) the trainee should submit progress reports from the supervising consultants at 6 monthly intervals.
- 7.2 It is the responsibility of the trainee to ensure that the Record Book is maintained regularly. Evidence of satisfactory performance at each component of the training period should be provided. The trainee may be requested to produce the Record Book for perusal by the Board of Study in Paediatrics, at any time during the training programme.
- 7.3 Unsatisfactory progress report/s may lead to termination or delay in completion of the training programme.
- 7.4 The Record Book should be submitted to the Board of Study in Paediatrics at the end of all 3 stages {(I), (II) and (III)} of the training programme.

The Record Book will be evaluated by the Board prior to acceptance of the trainee's application to appear for MD Paediatrics examination.

8. There will be a formal evaluation of the trainee's performance during the training programme.

9. MD PAEDIATRICS EXAMINATION

9.1 Eligibility for entry to the MD Paediatrics Examination

- (a) completion of MD Selection Examination
- (b) satisfactory completion of stages (I), (II) and (III) of the training programme as stipulated above.

9.2 The MD Paediatrics examination will usually be held once or twice a year. The number of attempts permitted at the MD Paediatrics examination will be limited to eight (8), to be completed within 10 years of entering stage (I) of the training programme.

9.3 The examination will consist of a written and a clinical component.

- (a) Written Component will consist of four sections
 - Case Histories
 - Structured essay
 - Data Interpretation
 - Investigation Oriented Practicals

- (b) Clinical component will consist of
 - One Long case – analysis and discussion
 - 2 to 4 Short cases – analysis and discussion

9.4 Assessment at the MD Paediatrics examination

The overall pass mark for the entire examination is 50%. A candidate should obtain a minimum of 50% at each of the 2 components of the examination. i.e. written and clinical component.

9.5 Award of a Medal

A medal would be awarded to the best candidate at the MD Paediatrics examinations, conducted in a given calendar year, provided the candidate has.

- (a) Passed the selection and MD Paediatrics examinations at the first attempt.
- (b) Obtained an aggregate mark of 70% or more.
- (c) Obtained the highest mark.
- (d) Obtained a minimum of 60% in the written and clinical components.
- (e) Followed the entire local training programme.

The Board of examiners would recommend the award of the medal to the PGIM.

In the event of a tie, the marks of the clinical component will be taken into consideration.

10. STAGE (IV) OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

- 10.1 Post MD training as a Senior Registrar in a unit stipulated in **12.0**
- 10.2 Duration of each speciality is given in **12.0**
- 10.3 This allocation will be made by a committee appointed by the Board of Study in General Paediatrics.
Selection of trainees to subspecialties will be done according to a point scheme and an interview by a panel appointed by the Board of Study.

11. STAGE (V) OF THE TRAINING PROGRAMME

- 11.1 Each candidate should obtain Board approval prior to embarking on the training period overseas.
- 11.2 This will consist of supervised training as a SHO / Registrar or equivalent at an approved centre/s overseas. Duration of overseas training for each speciality is given in **12.0** (Purely an 'observer' status will not be acceptable for subspecialty training)

- 11.3 In exceptional circumstances, in lieu of this period overseas he/she could do an additional one year of training in Sri Lanka (in General Paediatrics only) with the approval of the Board of Study in Paediatrics.
- 11.4 During this stage of training, the trainee is expected to provide progress reports from the supervising consultant at 6 monthly intervals. The sequence of stage (IV) and (V) could be reversed in General Paediatrics.

12. REQUIREMENTS FOR GENERAL PAEDIATRICS AND SUBSPECIALITIES IN STAGE (IV) AND (V)

12.1 GENERAL PAEDIATRICS

A period of 2 years training in General Paediatrics One year training in Sri Lanka. This period will consist of 9 months of General Paediatrics and 3 months of Paediatric Intensive Care (PICU) training in a PICU approved by the Board of Study. One year in an approved centre abroad.

12.2 NEONATOLOGY

A period of 3 years training in Neonatology.

18 months of this will be in a Neonatal unit and other units in Sri Lanka as stipulated by the training programme approved by the BOS.

18 months in an approved centre abroad.

12.3 PAEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY

A period of four years training in Paediatric Cardiology.

Two years of this will be in a Paediatric Cardiology unit and other appropriate units in Sri Lanka as stipulated in the training programme and approved by the Board of Study.

Two years in an approved Paediatric Cardiology centre/centres abroad.

12.4 PAEDIATRIC NEPHROLOGY

A period of three and a half years training in Paediatric Nephrology.

18 months of this will be in a unit with Paediatric Nephrology services and other appropriate units in Sri Lanka as stipulated in the training programme and approved by the Board of Study.

Two years in an approved Paediatric Nephrology centre/centres abroad.

12.5 PAEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY

A period of three years training in Paediatric Neurology.

Two years of this will be in an approved Neurology unit and other appropriate units in Sri Lanka as stipulated in the training programme, and approved by the Board of Study

One year in an approved Paediatric Neurology centre/centres abroad.

(During an interim period until a Paediatric Neurology unit is established 20 months in Sri Lanka and 18 months overseas)

12.6 PAEDIATRIC INTENSIVE CARE

A period of three and a half years training in Paediatric Intensive Care.

18 months of this will be in an approved PICU and other appropriate units in Sri Lanka as stipulated in the training programme and approved by the Board of Study

Two years in an approved Paediatric Intensive Care Unit/Units abroad.

13. The Board of Study in Paediatrics reserves the right to review the recognition of all training units mentioned in the prospectus.

14 RESEARCH PROJECT

GENERAL PAEDIATRICS

14.1 It is mandatory that a research project on a topic directly related to child health care be undertaken by each trainee at any stage during the training period. This should be submitted 3 months prior to Board Certification.

14.2 The project undertaken should lead to the presentation of a 10 to 15 minute paper at any one of following academic sessions:

- a) Annual Scientific Congress of the Sri Lanka College of Paediatricians.
- b) Annual Scientific Congress of the Ceylon College of Physicians.
- c) Annual Sessions of the Sri Lanka Medical Association.
- d) Annual Scientific Congress of the Sri Lanka College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists.
- e) Annual Sessions of the Sri Lanka Association for the Advancement of Science.
- f) Annual Scientific Sessions of the Kandy Society of Medicine.
- g) Annual Scientific Sessions of the Galle Clinical Society.
- h) Annual Scientific Sessions of the Ruhuna Clinical Society.
- i) Scientific Sessions of the Peradeniya Medical Student Alumini Association (PeMSAA).
- j) Any other local or international meeting, approved by the Board of Study in Paediatrics. Presentations at regional meetings, combined meetings or satellite meetings will not be accepted.

14.3 **In the alternative**, the project could lead to a publication in a journal that is listed in the *Index Medicus* or in the *Ceylon Journal of Child health / Ceylon Journal of Medical Sciences*.

14.4 Case reports are **NOT** acceptable. However, a series of more than 10 cases will be accepted.

14.5 Any paper or publication may have more than one author and several trainees may be co-authors. However, only one trainee could submit the paper as his or her own research project. If more than one trainee submits the same paper then it will not be accepted for any of the trainees who were authors and a new research project will have to be undertaken. Such a decision would be final and no appeals would be entertained.

- 14.6 Each trainee should submit the full paper (**not an abstract**) with the bibliography, accompanied by a certificate denoting official presentation at a Congress by the relevant authority or a certificate of publication from the editor of the journal or his/her representative and a statement of the contribution certified by the all the other authors., to the PGIM, before Board Certification. The submission will then have to be accepted by the Board of Study in Paediatrics. The Board reserves the right to reject any research project. No trainee would be Board Certified without completing and submitting a research project that is acceptable to the Board of Study in Paediatrics.

PAEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALITIES

Research Project should be carried out during the Stage IV or V of the training and approval by the Board of Study should be obtained before embarking on the study. The completed project should be submitted to the Board of Study before the Board certification. Research Project will be assessed by a panel appointed by the Board of Study before the interview for Board certification.

15 BOARD CERTIFICATION

15.1 GENERAL PAEDIATRICS

The following requirements will have to be fulfilled for Board Certification as a specialist in Paediatrics

Successful completion of both examinations and the 4 stages of training, the trainee would be Board Certified as a specialist in Paediatrics.

- 1) Satisfactory completion of both examinations the stipulated training programmes.
(Based on the log book comments, and progress reports).
- 2) Completed log book
- 3) One research project.

15.2 PAEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALITIES

There will be an assessment in the form of an interview prior to the Board Certification.

Research Project and the Portfolio will be assessed by a panel appointed by the Board of Study before the interview for Board certification.

The following requirements will have to be fulfilled for Board Certification as a paediatric sub specialist.

- 1) Satisfactory completion of the stipulated training programme.
(Based on the interview, log book comments, and progress reports).
- 2) Completed logbook
- 3) Satisfactory portfolio
- 4) Satisfactory completion of an approved research project.

16. Eligibility for Board Certification of those applying with foreign postgraduate qualifications.

- 16.1 A candidate with complete MRCP (UK), MRCPCH (UK), MRACP, North American or Canadian Board Certification may apply for exemption from MD Paediatrics Selection examination. Originals of the certificates pertaining to the foreign qualifications should be submitted.

All above candidates should follow the “Lateral Entry Route Map” (on page 19) according to their entry category to be eligible to apply for MD Paediatrics training leading to Board Certification.

- 16.2 All candidates should complete a Research Project during their training as described in clause 14 (Page 10)

17. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

In any matter relating to interpretation of the above regulations, the decision of the Board of Study duly approved by the Board of Management of the PGIM will be final. The Board of study shall have the right to amend any provision in the above regulations with the approval of the Board of Management of the PGIM from time to time.

18. APPRAISAL BASED POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

This programme is based on the **RITA (Record of In-service Training Appraisal)** process.

Appraisal programme is to give a trainee a feed back on their performance to chart their continuing progress and to identify further development need.

1. Once in three months discussion between trainer and Trainee on progress current needs concerns and future goals. Format records of the proceedings of the discussion are kept with the PGIM, trainee and the trainer. The trainee and trainer will sign each form.
2. Maintenance of a portfolio and the log book by the trainee is compulsory.
3. Two external examiners will assess the programme at the end of 2 ½ years of training i.e. six months before the MD Part II examination. This allows sufficient time for correction of major deficiency if any before the scheduled examination. Successful completion of this component would be an essential prerequisite prior to being allowed to sit for the Part II examination.

REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES OF THE DIPLOMA IN CHILD HEALTH

1. INTRODUCTION

The Board of Study in Paediatrics will conduct the DCH examination in order to improve the knowledge and skills of medical officers in the provision of child care.

The acquisition of this diploma will

- (a) not entitle him/her to specialist status
- (b) not give any concession in the MD programme leading to the MD Paediatrics examination.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE EXAMINATION

2.1 To test whether the candidates have acquired adequate knowledge, skills and attitudes to enable them to

- (a) have a basic understanding of the problems of health and disease from conception through birth and childhood to adolescence in Sri Lanka.
- (b) be able to treat common illnesses that are of importance to child health care in Sri Lanka.

For this purpose candidates should

- 2.1.1. have an understanding of and competence in the principles and practice of the clinical methods in order to be able to identify, analyse and manage such patients efficiently and humanely.
- 2.1.2. be able to identify and refer those problems that require specialised treatment.
- 2.1.3. be able to carry out long term treatment for those referred back from a referral clinic including chronically ill and terminally ill patients.
- 2.1.4. be able to take preventive measures whenever feasible and to promote health and well being of infants and children.

For this purpose the candidate should have an understanding of

- (a) normal growth and development and any problems related thereto
- (b) community and hospital services and the particular role of health care and social service programmes
(either in government or non government sector) such as the following:

Nutritional intervention, Immunisation, Family Planning, Health Education, Care of mentally and physically handicapped.

3. ELIGIBILITY TO SIT THE EXAMINATION

3.1 Eligibility to sit the DCH Selection Examination

- (a) A medical degree registered * with the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
- (b) Satisfactory completion of internship acceptable to the Sri Lanka Medical Council.
- (c) Satisfactory completion of one year of post internship in Medical/ Clinical practice in a university/public/private sector institution in Sri Lanka acceptable to the PGIM.
- (d) The criteria prescribed in paragraphs (a) to (c) must have been satisfied by the applicants as at the date of closure of applications,
provided that where a short-fall has occurred due to any reasons including Sick, Maternity or Other leave, the doctor concerned should complete such shortfall in order to become eligible to apply for the Selection examination.
- (e) Any other requirement/s stipulated by the Board of Study relevant to a particular field of study concerned that has/have been approved by the Board of Management.

* foreign nationals who seek to apply to register for selection examinations should possess a medical degree registrable with the Sri Lanka Medical Council. The decision of the Board of Management will be final in all such applications.

A quota for the private sector is presently available for most courses.

3.2 DCH Selection Examination

A screening test in the form of a MCQ paper will be held to limit the candidates, about six months prior to the examination. Success at the Selection examination will make a candidate eligible for the immediate forthcoming DCH examination only.

The 20 social paediatric sessions are as follows

1. School medical inspection
2. Ante natal clinic
3. Family planning clinic
4. Child welfare clinic
5. Child guidance clinic
6. Family Physician approved by the Board of Study.
7. Public health nurse, family health care worker and public health inspector in the field at any MOH office under the supervision of medical officer of health
8. Institute for deaf children
9. Institute for blind children
10. Residential institution for a child with special needs.
11. Receiving home / probation and child care
12. Chitra Lane School for educationally subnormal
13. National Child Protection Authority
14. Family Health Bureau
15. Health Education Bureau
16. Epidemiology Department
17. Anti Malaria Campaign
18. Sexually transmitted diseases clinic
19. Anti TB Campaign
20. Rehabilitation unit at Lady Ridgeway Hospital

3.3 Eligibility to sit the DCH Examination

- a) The standard reached at the DCH selection examination
- b) Six months experience in General Paediatrics with “first on call” duties under a Consultant Paediatrician during internship or afterwards (or two years experience in General Paediatrics under a Consultant Paediatrician) within 5 years immediately preceding the DCH examination.
- c) 20 social Paediatric sessions approved by the Board of Study

Candidates have to complete a minimum of 80% social Paediatric sessions before the closing date of applications for the DCH examination.

- 3.4 Candidates who have passed the selection examination, but do not possess 3.3 (b) should complete a period of 3 months of first on call duties in General Paediatrics under a Consultant Paediatrician before the closing date of applications.

Private sector candidates should follow “Guidelines for commencing the formal training of private sector candidates by the PGIM – 2007” when applying for MD & DCH examinations.

4. TRAINING COURSE

Training courses may be organised by the following:

Post Graduate Institute of Medicine

Universities

Sri Lanka Paediatric Association and any other recognised Medical Association

Paediatric units in Colombo /Kandy/Galle / Jaffna

Other courses would be subject to approval by the Board

5. EXAMINATION

The examination will consist of 2 components

- a) written component
- b) clinical component

5.1 The written component will consist of 2 papers

- a) MCQ paper
- b) Structured Essay paper

5.2 The clinical component will consist of

- a) One long case where the candidate will be given 40 minutes to take a history and examine a patient after which he/she will be questioned for 20 minutes by a pair of examiners
- b) Several short cases where the candidate will be called upon to examine and then questioned.

6. EVALUATION

The overall pass mark is 50% for the entire examination. A candidate will have to obtain a minimum of 50% at each of the 2 components of the examination viz. written and clinical

7. AWARD OF MEDAL

A medal shall be awarded to the best candidate at the DCH examination provided.

- a) the person has passed the examination in the first attempt.
- b) the person has obtained an aggregate mark of 65% or more
- c) the person has topped the list of candidates
- d) the person has obtained 60% or more in both written and clinical components.

The Board of examiners would recommend the award of the medal to the PGIM.

In the event of a tie, the marks of the clinical component will be taken into consideration.

8. AWARD OF DIPLOMA

On successful completion of DCH examination the candidate will be awarded the Diploma in Child Health.

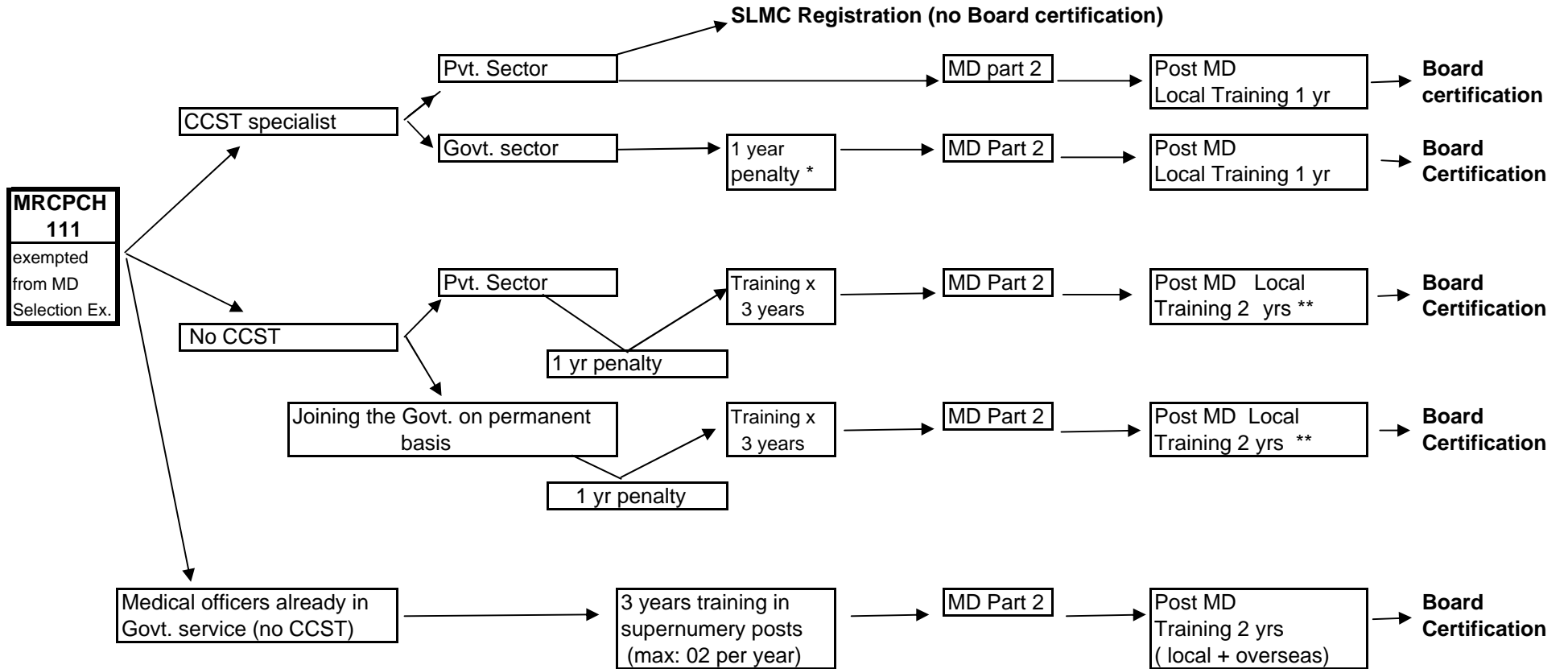
9. INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

In any matter relating to interpretation of the above regulations, the decision of the Board of Study duly approved by the Board of Management of the PGIM will be final. The Board of Study shall have the right to amend any provisions in the above regulations with the approval of the Board of Management of the PGIM from time to time.

10. GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE PGIM

General Regulations of the PGIM which are applicable to the postgraduate trainees on all courses conducted by the PGIM are in a separate booklet. All trainees are expected to buy a copy and make themselves familiar with the General Regulations in addition to the specific regulations in this booklet.

LATERAL ENTRY ROUTE MAP TO THE TRAINING SCHEME FOR BOARD CERTIFICATION AS A SPECIALIST IN PAEDIATRICS



penalty - service to the country in the Ministry of Health or university

* In a training unit under a Consultant Paediatrician decided by the BOS

** Consider previous post MRCPCH Training abroad