



# G H H M

COURSE PROSPECTUS

2023 - 2024



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# WHAT IS GLOBAL HEALTH & HUMANITARIAN MEDICINE COURSE?

## Overview

The Global Health & Humanitarian Medicine (GHHM) course is organised by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). It is a part-time, blended learning course with most of the didactic content delivered online, either through weekly webinars or through asynchronous online activities. However, as per the current requirements of the Royal College of Physicians (RCP), UK, students must attend an in-person laboratory training to be eligible to sit the Diploma in Tropical medicine and Hygiene (DTM&H). Any exemptions to this criterion are granted solely at the discretion of the RCP.

The course is designed to equip medical doctors with medical knowledge and public health skills required to work in low resource settings, including humanitarian crisis contexts. It is organised through contributions of clinicians, colleagues from academic institutions, international organisations, and MSF, to provide up-to-date teaching and guidance on key areas in tropical medicine, global health, and humanitarian medicine. The GHHM also prepares students to take the DTM&H examination organised by the RCP, UK.

## Aim

The GHHM course aims to provide affordable global access to high-quality teaching in tropical medicine, global health, and humanitarian medicine to improve patient care, organisation of health services, and humanitarian medical interventions in low and middle-income countries.



The main objective of this programme is to provide equitable access to global health teaching with a strong focus on the principles and standards espoused by humanitarian medical interventions and the lived experiences of the aid workers and the populations they serve. To achieve this, we provide a hybrid teaching model—a common online platform and webinars, which provide access to expert faculty from all over the world and laboratory training for students at our collaborating institutions - Infectious diseases training and research center, Christian Medical College, Vellore Faculty of Health Sciences, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry (JIPMER, Puducherry), National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South Africa, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK and the University Medical Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Through the University of Glasgow, we also offer spaces for laboratory training



at their collaborating centres i.e. Kamuzu University of Health Science, Blantyre, Malawi, at the Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia or at the Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia.

## Philosophy

The GHM course is run with the support of experts in the field, drawn from both MSF and academic institutions. The course content has traditionally followed the syllabus of the DTM&H Exam in line with the latest edition of the Oxford Handbook of Tropical Medicine, but also focuses on the practice of humanitarian medicine. We therefore, provide pragmatic advice on the programmatic organisation of health services and the principles, standards, and organisation of humanitarian medical interventions illustrated by recent operational field experiences of MSF and other humanitarian actors. The teaching is organised through a “blended learning” approach with weekly seminars accessible via webinars. Furthermore, through our online platform, we conduct

moderated clinical and programmatic group exercises, along with access to the GHM Course Handbook.

## Whom is the course for?

The GHM course is designed for medical doctors who hold a primary medical qualification (MBBS, MB ChB or its equivalent) from a recognised medical school in any country and have a minimum of two years of post-internship work experience. While we welcome applications from qualified medical doctors from all countries, we prioritise applications from medical doctors who intend to or are already working in low resource settings through MSF, Ministries of Health, and other health care providers and medico-humanitarian organisations.



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## WHY THIS COURSE ?

Medical doctors working in low resource settings face many challenges in providing health care and organising humanitarian medical interventions. Though such exposure provides them with a wealth of hands-on experience, their opportunities to progress in formal medical education are limited. At present, there are few available high-quality postgraduate courses of clinical and public health programs providing the breadth and detail of a diploma or masters in tropical medicine and global health. The costs of courses that are available are often high. In addition, due to the increased workload, most doctors are engaged in the field, limiting their access to full-time postgraduate ed-

ucation. Furthermore, many countries are in the stage of epidemiologic transition where the morbidity of tropical diseases is compounded by the increasing burden of non-communicable diseases. These complex needs call for training tailored to the unique challenges faced by these medical personnel. MSF collaborates with academic institutions to create a blended learning course in global health through online teaching with a strong focus on humanitarian medicine



## COURSE INFORMATION

### Course Duration

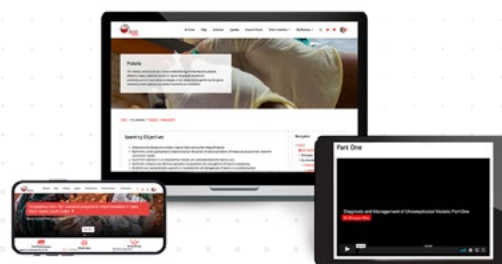
The GHHM course will run from July 2023 to May 2024 i.e. roughly 40 weeks of teaching. During this period, we will guide our students through key topics in tropical medicine and public health in preparation for the DTM&H examination and practice beyond the exam.

### Where & How We Teach

This is a blended learning course – with a combination of weekly seminars, online materials, and peer learning through online group discussions. All students must join the weekly webinar for approximately two and a half hours, comprising of two lectures and a quiz with time for questions and answers after each talk. The speakers are experts in their fields. You should be prepared with questions and interact with these experts for an optimum learning experience. We record most of our seminars, so if you miss a session, a recorded version and the slide presentation will be available for catch-up within three weeks on our Online Platform. Please note that some lecturers are not comfortable with their lectures being recorded or presentations being shared, and in those cases, we will not be able to upload those lectures/ presentations.

Our key aim is to deliver high-quality medical education equitably to a global, medical audience. Online education allows us to reach individuals who might not have the resources, whether it be time, money, or opportunity to participate otherwise. However, we also rec-

ognize the irreplaceable components of classroom-based teaching. We aim to benefit from online and classroom methods by holding seminars delivered via virtual webinars, online forums, online case discussions, and a library of e-resources. The Online Platform has weekly quizzes,



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a library of lectures, relevant articles, the GHHM Course Handbook, and reference materials and is a platform for case discussions. Case discussions can be held with the entire teaching group, and there are small, closed group online discussion areas for the examination of cases or topical program challenges.

The course is organised through the MSF UK office in London in collaboration with the Infectious Disease Department of the Royal Free Hospital of the Royal Free London (RFL) NHS Foundation Trust and the MSF, South Asia office in Delhi in collaboration with the Christian Medical College (CMC) Vellore, the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) and the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research (JIPMER)



in Puducherry. We hope to develop new partnerships with academic partners in Asia, South America and Africa.

To be eligible for the DTM&H Exam, at one time during the course all students must attend a laboratory training (3-4 days) at one of the DTM&H accredited laboratories collaborating with the GHM course. The required in-presence parasitology laboratory training is offered at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSH&TM), the University Medical Centre (UMC) Amsterdam, the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) of Johannesburg, the Wellcome Trust Laboratory of CMC Vellore and the microbiology departments of KMC Manipal and JIPMER in Puducherry. Through the University of Glasgow, sometimes limited seats for laboratory training at their collaborating centres i.e. Kamuzu University of Health Science, Blantyre, Malawi, at the Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia or at the Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia and the University of Glasgow itself are available.

Of note, exemptions to laboratory training are allowed in exceptional circumstances (like the Covid-19 pandemic) and in extenuating cases (e.g. high security settings disallowing travel), but this is completely at the discretion at the RCP, and GHM does not have influence over these decisions. If a student receives an exemption, s/he is expected to attend an online laboratory training to receive a Course Completion Certificate from GHM. This is required as it not only enhances the student's knowledge of parasitology, but is also an important part of preparation for the DTM&H.

The London based course (GHM UK) is available to medical doctors in Africa, Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. The Delhi-based course (GHM South

Asia) is available to medical doctors in Asia and Oceania. This distribution is strongly recommended by GHM as it enables physicians to attend the webinars during a time convenient for their time zone of their residence.



## Course Contributors

We collaborate with international academics, clinicians, and experts to provide you with outstanding teaching on key technical areas and programmatic aspects in global health and humanitarian medicine. You can learn more about the GHM team members by visiting the 'Meet the GHM Team' tab of the GHM South Asia website: <https://ghmsouthasia.msfindia.in/>

## Costs

We run the GHM course with a small administrative team on a highly subsidized basis. All course fees go towards covering a percentage of the costs of the course and the rest is covered by MSF, which contributes to about 50% of the programme's cost.

We will provide you with an invoice and can provide letters to support funding applications (e.g., from study budgets). GHM course fees are informed by the



World Bank income classification, and the following amount is to be paid as a one-time fee either to MSF, South Asia or to MSF UK, depending on your country of residence.

- £2,760 for students whose country of residence is in the European Economic Area or a High Income Country (HIC)
- £750 for students whose country of residence is in an Upper Middle Income Country (UMIC)
- £650 for students whose country of residence is in a Lower Middle Income Country (LMIC)
- £ 550 for students whose country of residence is in a Low Income Country (LIC)

The fee tiers are based on the World Bank income classification. To find out which tier you fall into, For more information, refer to <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519>

The DTM&H examination fees (paid directly to the RCP) amounts to approx. £422 and this may increase in coming years. The examination is expected to be held Online in June/July 2024.

## Course Structure & Content

The course is divided into 25 topic modules. Each module will consist of online videos, weekly seminars, online reference materials for self-directed learning and peer learning. There is a weekly quiz, which is aimed to give you an overview of and get you to read broadly around multiple topics. We organize approximately 90 hours of weekly seminars throughout our 40 teaching weeks. In addition, we also conduct three additional Saturday teaching days and a two-day

Revision Weekend closer to the DTM&H examination. All students intending to sit the DTM&H examination must meet the RCP-mandated requirement to attend parasitology laboratory training with a minimum of 12 hours of laboratory experience. Our online component includes approximately 150-200 hours of online teaching materials covering lectures, videos, and demonstrations. Through our online platform, there will be online activities based around clinical cases or programmatic challenges; students must participate in all the online activities. Moreover, the online platform also provides weekly updates on the GHM course activities, reference materials, and updates regarding GHM topics, with access to the weekly MSF Global Health Review, providing a selection of published articles in peer-reviewed journals. Self-study is an expected and integral part of the course. We will provide comprehensive reference materials for each module. The GHM course is loosely based on the content of the Oxford Handbook of Tropical Medicine and covers much of the syllabus required by the DTM&H examination. For full and up to date details, please go to the RCP DTM&H homepage: <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/diploma-tropical-medicine-and-hygiene> While knowing some of the minutiae may be needed for the exam, in MSF's experience, there is vital information that can make the difference between life and death or can help you be a far more effective doctor or programme manager in resource-limited settings, experiential knowledge that is never taught or covered by exam-focused courses. With this in mind, we aim to allocate one-third of teaching time to putting clinical knowledge into context. We will focus on the practical aspects of humanitarian work, including clinical and programmatic challenges, through a series of interactive exercises and 'Field talks'

from experienced MSF staff. We will also create opportunities to share your experiences from working in humanitarian settings with your peers.

## Student Workload

The weekly seminars run from:

- 18:00-20:00 GMT every Wednesday (for the GHHM UK course)
- 16:00 to 18:00 IST every Thursday (for the GHHM SA course)

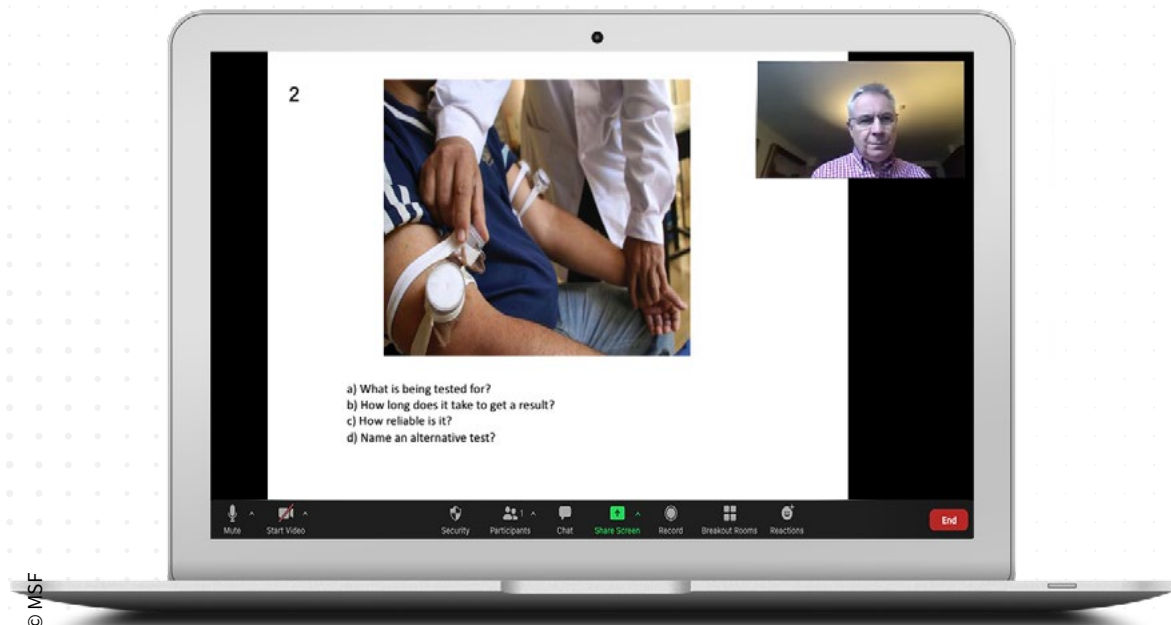
You are required to dedicate approximately two hours and a half every week for the synchronous activity i.e. lectures. In addition, there is asynchronous learning comprising weekly quizzes and fortnightly group activities that you must complete before the given deadlines.

In a usual week throughout the 10-month course year, we recommend that students commit 6- 8 hours a week, which includes the 2-hour seminars, online ac-

tivity, and self-directed learning. However, the student workload is higher when attending the minimum 12 hours parasitology laboratory training; additional half-day teaching days (on Saturdays; 5 hours, at least 3 times a year); and two-days Revision Weekend (16 hours) in the weeks of the final preparation for the DT-M&H examination.

A typical week during the course would look similar to the following:

- Monday: prepare Weekly quiz in advance of the weekly seminar (Wednesday or Thursday); check the GHHM online platform for materials: there will be two weekly activities: video lectures or case discussion.
- Wednesday 18:00-20:00 GMT or Thursday 16:00-20:00 IST: webinar, Quiz answers are released and discussed live, with opportunities to ask questions.



- Throughout the week: Review online materials. Video lectures will often be in 3-4 segments with a short activity between each part, extra reading material, preparations for exam questions or answer writing. The course's modular structure means that many of the online videos are essential viewing to help prepare for upcoming seminars.

### Things To Remember

- Respond to case discussion.
- Check the news feed for interesting items relevant to the course that will extend your knowledge of how topics apply to the real world.
- Check the GHHM Course Handbook for key and additional readings.

### Attendance

The minimum requirement for the course completion is:

1. 70% attendance in the weekly webinars.
2. Contribution to 70% of the online activities
3. Completion of Mock Exam
4. Participation in the (minimum) 12 hours of basic microscopy and parasitology training.
- 5.

We understand that you have existing work commitments and if you foresee yourself struggling to meet the attendance requirements, please let us know, and we will do what we can to help. However, please remember that you will only be eligible to receive the GHHM Course Completion certificate if you fulfil the attendance requirements and complete the required online activities.

### Active Class Participation

We believe that learning is improved with interaction, discussion, and applying knowledge gained to manage problems. We expect all students to contribute regularly to seminar discussions via the webinar chat facility to enable a fruitful learning experience. We will run several activities that rely on students to prepare online materials released a week before an interactive classroom session.

### Active Online Participation

One of the requirements for completing this course is to make substantive contributions to online discussion threads, which will form a regular part of your online learning. You are probably wondering what that means! We have guidelines to help keep online discussions dynamic and valuable and to help us evaluate your contributions to the online platform:

- Submit initial post(s) early in the online activities and subsequent responses to other students' posts to generate a dynamic discussion.
- Discussions occur when there is dialogue; therefore, you need to build upon other students' posts and responses to create discussion threads. Make sure to revisit the discussion forum and respond





(if necessary) to what other learners have posted, replying to your initial responses

- When relevant, add to the discussion by including prior knowledge, work experiences, references, websites, resources, etc. (giving credit when appropriate).

### Feedback:

As part of GHHM's continuing efforts to improve the quality of the course, a weekly feedback form is provided to students. This enables students to give their honest feedback on the lectures in an anonymized manner. It is also an important tool for our distinguished faculty and the course organisers.

### GHHM Peer Learning

Our students have diverse experiences in tropical medicine, public health, infectious diseases, and humanitarian medicine. We like to tap into this knowledge and invite you to share your experiences with the class. We may approach you to facilitate a case-based or group discussion. The GHHM course has successfully completed seven years of teaching, with 558 medical doctors having sat the DT-M&H Exam and the overall majority of them having obtained the DTM&H. From July 2022 until May 2023, the GHHM UK course ran its eighth course year for 120 students, and the GHHM South Asia course ran its sixth course year for 80 students.



## MODULES

1. Bacterial infections
2. Bites, stings and poisoning
3. Covid-19
4. Field Talks
5. Fungal infections
6. Global Health
7. Human Immunodeficiency Virus
8. Humanitarian crises – Complex humanitarian emergencies
9. Malaria
10. Maternal Health
11. Mental Health
12. Non-Communicable Diseases (NDCs)
13. Nutrition
14. Other topics of tropical medicine
15. Outbreaks
16. Paediatrics
17. Parasitic infections
18. Public Health
19. Sexual and Reproductive Health
20. Travel Medicine
21. Tropical Dermatology
22. Tropical Ophthalmology
23. Tuberculosis
24. Vectors / Ectoparasites
25. Viral infections

*An updated breakdown of online materials and planned webinar sessions will be available on the GHM online platform.*



## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND HOW TO APPLY ?

During the academic year 2023-24, the inclusion criteria for the candidates are:

- Registered medical practitioners: MBBS (or its equivalent) with at least two years of post-internship, clinical work experience
- Proficiency in the English language

The candidates are eligible to apply if they meet the inclusion criteria as mentioned above and state their motivation to participate in the GHHM course. A committee comprising the GHHM team and various academic partners make the final selection of candidates.

Medical doctors with a demonstrable interest in tropical medicine with a humanitarian assistance background will be given priority. For this course year, we aim to enrol 80 students for the GHHM South Asia course and 120 students for the GHHM UK course.





## GLOSSARY

**AIDS** Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

**CMC** Christian Medical College

**DTM&H** Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

**GHHM** Global Health and Humanitarian Medicine

**GMT** Greenwich Mean Time

**HIV** Human Immunodeficiency Virus

**IST** India Standard Time

**JIPMER** Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research

**KMC** Kasturba Medical College

**MoH** Ministry of Health

**MAHE** Manipal Academy of Higher Education

**Moodle** Modular Object Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment

**MoU** Memorandum of Understanding

**MSF** Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders)

**NCD** Non-Communicable Diseases

**RCP** Royal College of Physicians

**SA** South Asia

**TB** Tuberculosis

**UK** United Kingdom

## CONTACT US



### Application enquiries:

GHHM South Asia Course: [ghhm.southasia@new-delhi.msf.org](mailto:ghhm.southasia@new-delhi.msf.org)

GHHM UK Course: [ghhm@london.msf.org](mailto:ghhm@london.msf.org)



### Postal Address:

GHHM South Asia Course: 5th Floor, Okhla NSIC Metro Station Building, New Delhi - 110020, India

GHHM UK Course: MSF UK, Lower Ground Floor, Chancery Exchange, 10 Furnival Street, London, EC4A 1AB



### Website:

GHHM South Asia Course: <https://ghhmsouthasia.msfindia.in/>

GHHM UK Course: <https://msf.org.uk/global-health-and-humanitarian-medicine-course>

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