

GHHM Prospectus 2026–27



THE GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMANITARIAN MEDICINE COURSE

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A message from the GHHM team

While this course supports you to prepare for a postgraduate diploma, we encourage you to reflect on the significance of humanitarian medicine within GHHM, and your role at the confluence of clinical and humanitarian medicine. We will equip you with the right set of tools to help you achieve your professional aspirations and GHHM will bolster your knowledge supporting you to carve your niche in the world of academia, clinical medicine, public health and humanitarian response. At the heart of GHHM is a diverse global network of doctors committed to breaking down barriers and providing equitable access to high-quality postgraduate medical education. Through the course webinars, online work and group discussions, we endeavour to foster a space that is not only intellectually stimulating but also diverse, receptive, and inclusive of the varied experiences of lecturers, moderators and students. We look forward to welcoming you on this educational journey and into the wider GHHM community. We hope that you enjoy the experience as much as our alumni have and that your role as a medical doctor, in whatever environment you choose to work in, is enriched through your learning with us.

Why choose GHHM?



The GHHM course is delivered 100% online.



All participants have the same learning experience regardless of their location.



The course has two-and-a-half hours of contact time per week and an additional six to eight hours of self-directed learning.



The teaching is flexible and part-time enabling you to continue to work while attending GHHM.



The course prepares you to take the Diploma in Global Health examination, but its purpose is greater than that.



GHHM delivers lectures with a focus on preparing doctors for the reality of work in a resource-constrained or humanitarian intervention setting.

Participant requirements:



- Primary medical degree of Bachelor in Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) or equivalent Doctor in Medicine degree



- Minimum of two years' experience working as a medical doctor in medical practice (excluding mandatory internship)



- Registration with recognised respective Medical Council

The 2025-2026 GHHM cohort:

63

nationalities
represented

87%

working in limited-
resource settings

50/50

equal gender
representation

What our students say



The GHHM course was not only an amazing learning experience, but also an inspiring one. I've benefited so much from the course during my professional journey after completing it, as there were a lot of topics that are not part of the standard curriculum in my country of origin. I also gained many insights and perspectives related to humanitarian medicine, which I wouldn't have learned of otherwise. Being taught by enthusiastic experts was definitely a plus, as well!"

Dr Samantha Dewi

– Medical Activity Manager, Myanmar, MSF



The GHHM course has given me the confidence to apply for positions requiring greater expertise, as it strengthened my knowledge of global health challenges, practical skills, and familiarity with international guidelines, preparing me for more advanced roles."

GHHM 2024-2025 alumnus



GHHM was a key learning experience in my career. During the months I was part of the course, I eagerly waited every week to connect to the seminars. What I learned from the expert lecturers and my colleagues has had a tremendous impact in my day-to-day work in every setting I have been with MSF."

Dr Maritza Regardiz

– Medical Programmes Support, Mexico City, MSF



In the era of specialised medicine, the GHHM programme came at exactly the right time. It offered the flexibility I needed, allowing me to remain fully engaged in fieldwork while studying remotely. More importantly, it offered relevance. The content mirrored the challenges I was facing: managing outbreaks of cholera, dengue, and measles in displaced populations, and setting up a decentralised Hepatitis C and Non-communicable Diseases (NCD) project with limited access to laboratory support. The real-world examples and MSF case studies from the course provided both clinical insight and a practical perspective."

Dr Mike Adeyemi Lawal

– Malaria/Infectious Disease Specialist Advisor, MSF



I would highly recommend the GHHM course to any doctor with an interest in global health. It is especially valuable for clinicians working in or preparing for roles in low-resource or crisis-affected areas. GHHM was recommended to me by my former predecessor on my 2nd mission in Malawi as a HIV-TB Doctor in one of the longest running MSF projects. My colleague was getting ready for the mock exam and I was astonished about all the things he knew about neglected diseases and global health. I started the course just after completing my Malawi mission and 3 months before going on my next mission to Malakal, South Sudan. I was part of the team in charge of setting up a chronic care unit, the lessons in NCDs and programming helped me structure my actions. A cholera outbreak made me really grasp the importance of understanding a systematic approach and the need for basic epidemiology.

Dr Diyani Dewasurendra

– Chronic Care and Infectious Disease Implementer, MSF

What is the Global Health & Humanitarian Medicine course?

Overview

The Global Health & Humanitarian Medicine (GHHM) course is designed to equip medical doctors with the medical knowledge required to work in resource-constrained and/or humanitarian intervention settings.

Organised by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), it is a part-time, online course. It will provide up-to-date teaching and guidance on key areas in clinical infectious diseases, global public health, non-communicable diseases and mental health, women's and child health and humanitarian intervention medicine. Teaching will be delivered by clinicians and colleagues from academic institutions and international organisations (including MSF).

The GHHM course will prepare students to take the Diploma in Global Health (DGH) examination, organised by The Royal College of Physicians (RCP), UK. The DGH is a brand-new diploma, developed collaboratively by GHHM and RCP. GHHM also prepares students to take other postgraduate exams such as the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene examination. Find out more about the Diploma in Global Health here: <https://www.rcp.ac.uk/events-and-education/education-and-learning/exams-and-assessment/diploma-in-global-health/>



Aim

The GHHM course aims to provide affordable, global access to high-quality teaching in clinical infectious diseases, global public health and humanitarian intervention medicine, to improve patient care, organisation of health services, and humanitarian medical interventions in resource-constrained or complex humanitarian settings. There will be a strong focus on the principles and standards followed during humanitarian medical interventions and the lived experiences of healthcare workers and the populations they serve.

The course provides opportunities for collaboration and interaction with like-minded professionals. It provides access to an online platform, where you can find GHHM resources, self-directed learning materials, and weekly online seminars delivered by lecturers who are internationally recognised in their field.

Virtual microscopy and parasitology training is also included in the course teaching (in-person laboratory training is no longer offered as part of the GHHM course.)

Who is the course for?

GHHM welcomes applications from qualified medical doctors from all countries. However, we prioritise applications from those who intend to work, or are already working in, resource-constrained settings through MSF, Ministries of Health, or other health care providers or medical humanitarian organisations. GHHM especially welcomes applications from women in low-income or middle-income countries who do not yet hold a postgraduate qualification.



Why this course?

Medical doctors working in resource-constrained settings face many challenges in providing healthcare and organising humanitarian medical interventions. Though such exposure provides them with a wealth of hands-on experience, their opportunities to access formal continued medical education are limited.

Flexible and part-time:

The course is part-time, running over nine months, so that you can fit your studies around your work. We ask that you attend our weekly live seminars and then complete additional work online in your own time.

Affordable:

Affordability is important to us. We have worked hard to make the GHHM course affordable for anyone hoping to join us.

Relevant:

Our curriculum is written to directly reflect and complement the way doctors work in resource-constrained settings. We want our syllabus to be relevant, applicable and interesting.

If you want to deepen your knowledge and understanding by taking part in simulations and interactive seminars on, for example, outbreak control and investigation, or sexual and reproductive health, then this is the course for you. We strongly believe that we can learn from each other, and we will provide an environment where everyone can feel confident to share their experiences and learn collaboratively.

Course Information

The GHHM Course will run from September 2026 to May 2027 with approximately 37 weeks of teaching. During this period, we will guide our students through key topics in global health and humanitarian medicine.



Where and how we teach

We deliver our content through weekly live seminars, online group activities and self-directed study, encouraging peer learning throughout. We will host interactive live seminars every few weeks, inviting students to share their experiences in group discussions.

As part of our curriculum, we will host a series of virtual microscopy and parasitology sessions. Alongside these sessions, you will be given access to our Parasitology Handbook, our online Parasitology revision app, and a range of additional resources.

We record most of our seminars. If you miss a session, a recorded version and the slide presentation will be available on our online platform.

After GHHM

Once you have completed the GHHM course, you will be invited to join the GHHM Alumni Network. The GHHM Alumni Network is an online community of former GHHM students, lecturers and members of the teaching faculty. It is a space where you can re-connect with your classmates, make new connections and access relevant news and events. You will also have access to mentoring opportunities, learning resources and medical guidelines to support you in your clinical work after GHHM.

Over 1,400 medical doctors from across the globe have now completed the GHHM course. By joining the Alumni Network, you will have an opportunity to join a diverse and dynamic professional network of medical doctors from a wide variety of medical specialities and clinical backgrounds. Whether you are working for MSF or a ministry of health, in a resource-limited or high-resource environment, alumni all have the shared experiences of having taken the GHHM course. GHHM hopes that the Alumni Network will enable members to build from that shared experience, discover new opportunities in their careers, and continue to strengthen their clinical practice.





Which site should I apply to?

GHHM divides learners into two groups to enable physicians to attend seminars when convenient for the time zone of their residence. Learners residing in Africa, Europe and the Americas are hosted online from the MSF UK office. Learners residing in Asia, the Middle East, and Oceania are hosted online from MSF South Asia.

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.

Costs

We run the GHHM course with a small administrative team. All course fees cover a percentage of the course costs with the remainder funded by MSF UK.

We will supply an invoice and can provide letters to support funding applications. The fee tier is informed by the World Bank income classification. The relevant amount should be paid as a one-time fee. If you cannot pay the course fee in one sum, you can discuss flexible payment options with the GHHM team.

- £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).

To find out which tier you fall into, refer to <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519>

Examination fees are paid directly to the examining body. The Diploma in Global Health examination will be held on July 8th 2026.

Medical doctors who are nationals of, and are residing in, a low-income or lower middle-income country may apply for a bursary to cover their GHHM course fee and exam fee for the Diploma in Global Health (should they wish to attempt the exam). More information on bursaries can be found on our web page: msf.org.uk/global-health-and-humanitarian-medicine-course



Student workload

The weekly seminars run from:

- 18:00-20:00 GMT every Tuesday (for the GHM UK cohort)
- 16:00 to 18:00 IST every Thursday (for the GHM South Asia cohort)

You will be required to dedicate approximately two-and-a half hours every week to the online seminar and a further six to eight hours for self-directed learning and group activities. In a usual week throughout the nine-month course year, the six to eight hours, should include the two-hour seminars, online activity, and self-directed learning. However, the student workload will be higher when attending the virtual microscopy and parasitology training sessions, during the additional half-day teaching days (on Saturdays – five hours, three times a year), and during exam preparation sessions leading up to the DGH examination (and other exams).

A typical week during the course might look like this:

- Monday: prepare for weekly quiz in advance of the seminar (Tuesday or Thursday depending on your learning group); check the GHM online platform for newly released materials or upcoming online assignments.
- Tuesday 18:00-20:00 GMT or Thursday 16:00-18:00 IST: Attend the live seminar and listen to the answers to the quiz and two lectures on different topics in the course syllabus.
- Throughout the week: Review extra reading material, and complete online activities.

GHHM learning outcomes

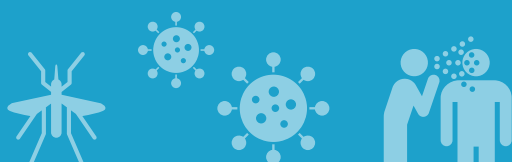
On completion of GHHM, you will have an increased knowledge and understanding of:

- The key global health challenges and emerging threats to populations worldwide
- Evidence-based decision-making in clinical infectious diseases in resource-challenged settings and humanitarian intervention contexts
- The principles of programmatic interventions in resource-challenged settings and how to apply this to real-world settings
- The inequities and inequalities faced by vulnerable groups accessing healthcare globally and strategies to address this

GHHM themes



Non-communicable diseases and Mental Health



Clinical Infectious Diseases



Global Public Health



Women's and Child Health



Humanitarian Medicine



Things to remember

Attendance

The minimum requirement for course completion is:

- 70% attendance in the weekly seminars
- Contribution to 70% of the online activities
- Completion of the final course assessment.
- Participation in the 12 hours (minimum) of basic microscopy and parasitology training delivered online.

You will be awarded a Course Completion Certificate on successful completion of the course.

Support

We understand that you have existing work commitments. If you foresee yourself struggling to meet the attendance requirements, we ask that you let us know so that we can support you.

Admission requirements and how to apply

Candidates must be:

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

Candidates are eligible to apply if they meet the above criteria and state their motivation to participate in the GHM course. Medical doctors with a humanitarian assistance background and a demonstrable interest in global health will be given priority.

Exam eligibility requirements

Diploma in Global Health (DGH): GHM course completion is not required to sit the DGH, however active and full participation in course activities will greatly improve your chances of passing the exam.

DTM&H: GHM course completion is *required* to be eligible to sit the DTM&H.



Contact us

APPLICATION ENQUIRIES:

For doctors based in Africa, Europe or the Americas: ghhm@london.msf.org

For doctors based in Asia or Oceania: ghhm@south-asia.msf.org

WEBSITES:

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

<https://ghhmsouthasia.msfindia.in>

