



CMSA

The Colleges of Medicine of South Africa NPC

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JOHANNESBURG OFFICE
EXAMINATIONS & CREDENTIALS

October 2022

REGULATIONS

FOR ADMISSION TO THE HIGHER DIPLOMA IN

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

OF THE COLLEGE OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEONS OF SOUTH

AFRICA

H Dip Orth(SA)

The examination is only offered once a year, during the Second Semester, from SS 2019.¹

1.0 SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 The purpose of the Higher Diploma in Orthopaedic Surgery is to raise and maintain the standard of practise in orthopaedic trauma and non-trauma emergencies in regional hospitals and in rural family practise.
- 1.2 The level of knowledge and competence will be such as to provide a sound but narrower basis for the practise of orthopaedics without requiring the advanced knowledge commensurate with the specialist Fellowship in orthopaedic surgery namely the FC Orth (SA).

2.0 TRAINING PROGRAMME

The two-year training programme (see 4.0) is designed to advance competence in

- 2.1 Clinical assessment
- 2.2 Selection and interpretation of appropriate investigations
- 2.3 Determining and implementing a management plan with the emphasis on treatment strategies according to the severity of the disease, available facilities, and surgical expertise with the need for and method of referral.
- 2.4 Acquisition of operative skills in all orthopaedic trauma “appropriate to level of competency.”
- 2.5 Non-trauma orthopaedic emergency surgery.
- 2.6 Completion of the ATLS Course — *see ATLS Appendix*

3.0 TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AND ROTATION

- 3.1 Candidates, who should hold at least a medical officer post in a Department of Orthopaedic Surgery during the training period, will be required to undertake **TWO YEARS** of fulltime in-service training of which at least **ONE YEAR** must be at a University teaching hospital complex or its satellite departments. The remaining time may be spent at a CMSA accredited regional hospital listed in *Appendix B*

3.2.../

¹ Timing of the examination effective SS 2019

- 3.2 The training programme will encompass
- 3.2.1 theoretical and practical proficiency in the assessment and management of orthopaedic trauma and non-trauma emergencies.
- 3.2.2 teaching ward rounds, patient presentations, morbidity and mortality meetings, orthopaedic conferences, lectures and tutorials and other appropriate meetings.
- 3.3 The rotation should require dedicated time managing orthopaedic trauma.
- 3.4 A logbook will be required for documenting training experience and academic activities.
- 3.5 Trainees will be selected who preferably hold a medical officers post, who are family practitioners requiring specific skills training or who demonstrate a commitment to regional hospitals or rural practise.

4.0 SYLLABUS

- 4.1 Principles of Orthopaedic surgery — *see Appendix A*
- 4.2 Advanced Trauma Life Support Course (ATLS) — *see ATLS Appendix*

5.0 ADMISSION TO THE EXAMINATION

- 5.1 The candidate must be registered or registrable with the Health Professions Council of South Africa.
- 5.2 The candidate must
- 5.2.1 have completed at least 18 months of the training programme as specified in Section 2.0 and 3.0 of the regulations.
- 5.2.2 attach to their examination application a satisfactory report from the Head of his Department of orthopaedic surgery. The report will be based on the review of the surgical logbook and in-course assessment on a 6-monthly basis.
- 5.3 The CMSA Senate, through its Examinations and Credentials Committee, will review all applications for admission to the examination, and may also review the professional and ethical standing of candidates

6.0 FORMAT OF THE EXAMINATION²

- 6.1 One 3-hour written paper of 100 – 120 single best answer questions
- 6.2 Depending on the current examination rules of the CMSA, the clinical component will consist of:
- A. Online Zoom-based Structured Oral Examination (SOE):
- Number of stations: 3
 - A structural oral examination and two clinical based scenarios
 - Duration of stations: 30 minutes each
 - Examination material may include case histories with test results, still images, photos, diagrams, radiology imaging, topic-based questions.
 - Examination will be conducted electronically using the Zoom platform.
 - Venue as per timetable.
- OR
- B. An in person clinical component:
- A structured oral examination
 - Clinical examination with two sets of short cases.
- 6.3 For a candidate to be successful:
- Achieve 50% for each component of the examination (written and clinical component).
- 6.4 Weighting of examination:
- Achieve 50% for each component of the examination, viz written and clinical component.
 - Written Examination – 50%
 - Structured Oral Examination (SOE) / Clinical component – 50% Prin
(Can pass 2 out of 3, 50% average).

² Updated written format – effective SS 2020

7.0 ADMISSION AS A DIPLOMATE

7.1 The candidate having passed the examination and having been admitted as a Diplomate in Orthopaedic Surgery of The College of Orthopaedic Surgeons of South Africa, will be asked to sign a declaration, as under:

I, the undersigned, do solemnly and sincerely declare

that while a member of the CMSA I will at all times do all within my power to promote the objects of the CMSA and uphold the dignity of the CMSA and its members

that I will observe the provisions of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, By-laws, Regulations and Code of Ethics of the CMSA as in force from time to time

that I will obey every lawful summons issued by order of the Senate of the said CMSA, having no reasonable excuse to the contrary

and I make this solemn declaration faithfully promising to adhere to its terms

Signed atthis day of

..... 20

Signature

Witness

(who must be a Founder, Associate Founder, Fellow, Member, Diplomate or Commissioner of Oaths)

7.2 A two-thirds majority of members of the CMSA Senate present at the relevant meeting shall be necessary for the award to any candidate of a Diploma

7.3 A Diplomate shall be entitled to the appropriate form of certificate under the seal of the CMSA

7.4 In the event of a candidate not being awarded the Diploma (after having passed the examination) the examination fee shall be refunded in full

7.5 The first annual subscription is due one year after registration (statements are rendered annually)

APPENDIX A: PRINCIPLES OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY

The principles of Orthopaedic surgery:

- Principles and management of fractures and dislocations.
- Principles and management of open fractures.
- Biomechanics applicable to fracture fixation and instrumentation failure.
- Biotribology, including joint lubrication and friction.
- Basic science: Bone, cartilage and substitutes (including healing, osteoporosis and stress fractures)
- Acute and chronic bone and joint infections (including septic arthritis and acute osteitis, chronic osteomyelitis, fracture related infections, prosthetic joint infections, spinal infections)
- Inflammatory, Congenital, Developmental, Dysplastic, Metabolic and Degenerative bone and joint diseases
- Pathology, diagnosis and management of soft tissue and bone tumours (benign and malignant).
- Musculoskeletal imaging including x-ray, nuclear studies, ultrasound, CT, MRI and PET.

APPENDIX B**HOSPITAL POSTS ACCEPTABLE FOR H DIP ORTH(SA) TRAINING**

Candidates are informed that training in fulfilment of the H Dip Orth (SA) examination regulations may be undertaken in:

- 1.0 Training posts under the supervision of university departments in teaching hospital complexes, as well as in teaching hospital equivalents or in university satellite departments of non-teaching hospitals

AND

- 2.0 Post-internship posts at the following CMSA accredited hospitals:

Boitumelo Hospital, Kroonstad
Dihlabeng Hospital, Bethlehem
Far East Rand Hospital
Goldfields Regional Hospital, Welkom
Ladysmith Provincial Hospital
Letaba Hospital, Letaba
Leratong Hospital, Krugersdorp
Pholosong Hospital
Potchefstroom Hospital
Rob Ferreira Hospital
Sebokeng Hospital, Vereeniging
Tembisa Hospital
Tshepong Hospital, Klerksdorp
Umtata General Hospital

Western Cape:

George Hospital, George
Karl Bremer Hospital, Bellville
Khayalitsha District Hospital, Khayalitsha
II Military Hospital, Cape Town
Mitchells Plain Hospital, Mitchells Plain
New Somerset Hospital, Cape Town
Paarl Hospital, Paarl
Victoria Hospital, Cape Town
Worcester Hospital, Worcester

Kwazulu-Natal:

Northdale Hospital, Pietermaritzburg
Harry Gwala (Edendale) Hospital, Pietermaritzburg
Grey's Hospital, Pietermaritzburg
Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital, Durban
King Edward Hospital, Durban
RK Khan Hospital, Durban
Prince Mshyeni Hospital, Durban
Addington Hospital, Durban
Pixley Ka Isaka Seme Memorial Hospital, Durban
Port Shepstone Hospital, Port Shepstone
Ngwelezana Hospital, Empangeni
General Justice Gizenga Mpanza Hospital, Stanger

The orthopaedic council will consider applications from other hospitals and will consult the regional academic units to determine the adequacy of supervision at such a unit.

Enquiries concerning acceptability of posts should be addressed to:

The Academic Registrar

CMSA

Private Bag X23

BRAAMFONTEIN

2017

ATLS CERTIFICATE**CMSA****Private Bag X23, Braamfontein 2017****Tel: 011 726 7037 / Fax: 011 726 4036****ADVANCED TRAUMA LIFE SUPPORT COURSE****(compulsory for H Dip Orth(SA) candidates)**

In terms of the regulations for this new higher diploma, candidates on applying for examination admission must attach (a valid copy of) their ATLS certificate.

1.0 RESPONSIBILITY OF CANDIDATE

1.1 Candidates are solely responsible for contacting the co-ordinator of the region of their choice, obtaining full information and enrolling and paying for the 2½ day ATLS course. They should not delay: many courses are fully booked months ahead.

2.0 NATIONAL REGIONS FOR ATTENDANCE AND THEIR COURSE CO-ORDINATORS

2.1 **Bloemfontein:** Sr Sonja van den Bergh, PO Box 29033, Danhof, Bloemfontein 9301. Tel: 051 405 3506, Fax: 051 444 3814/2059, e-mail: Sonja13@absamail.co.za, Cell: 072 191 0130.

2.2 **Cape Town:** Sr Hetta Kolver, PO Box 15417, Panorama, Cape 7506. Tel: 021 842 3245, Fax: 021 842 3246, e-mail: atls@mjvn.co.za, Cell: 083 269 3451.

2.3 **Durban:** Shirley Odendaal, PO Box 16060, Bluff 4036. Tel: 031 261 9658, Fax: 031 261 9658, e-mail: atls@saol.com, Cell: 083 654 4781.

2.4 **East London:** Lindy Richter, Frere Hospital Private Bag X9047, East London 5200. Tel: 043 709 2074, Fax: 043 709 2544, e-mail: lindy.richter@impilo.ecprov.gov.za, Cell: 082 829 3741.

2.5 **Port Elizabeth:** Rushda Hendricks, Tel: 041 405 9111, Fax: 041 452 2578, e-mail: maajidah@mweb.co.za, Cell: 083 774 9398.

2.6 **Pretoria:** Tania Haken, Department of Surgery, 1 Military Hospital, Private Bag X1026, Voortrekkerhoogte 0143. Tel: 012 314-0676, Fax: 012 314 0676, e-mail: atlsn@ananzi.co.za.

2.7 **Witwatersrand:** Mrs Sandy Marx, Postnet 235, Private Bag X2600, Houghton, 2041. Tel: 011 488 3373, Fax: 011 488 4322, e-mail: trauma@mweb.co.za, Cell: 082 553 6064.

(Courses at 2.1 and 2.6 may also be conducted also in Afrikaans. Enquire from coordinator).

- For all surgical Fellowships except Orthopaedics and Ophthalmology.