

**NAME OF THE COURSE:**

**Fellow in HIV Medicine**

**TITLE OF THE DEGREE/S:**

The candidates who successfully complete the twelve months full time programme shall be awarded a Certificate as Fellow in HIV Medicine.

**GOAL:**

The programme envisaged is to provide opportunity for hands on training for acquiring high proficiency in integrated approach in HIV management for candidates who would be placed in institutions accredited for that purpose by the University.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

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The programme aims to prepare candidates for leadership roles in HIV clinical and public health management. The programme is designed and structured to enable the students to:

1. To improve their knowledge, attitude and skills on issues related to institutional and community based HIV care and management
2. Understand the relevance and practice the process of 'Inclusive and Integrated'\* model of HIV care services.
3. Understand the concepts and practice of palliative care in management of chronic illness.
4. Understand the National Health Programmes relevant to public health management of HIV
5. Equip themselves with the skills for Research, analysis of managerial concerns like Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), Management Information System and Programme management.

*\* Inclusive and Integrated: means bringing People infected and affected by HIV within the ambit of care without stigma and discrimination and integrating HIV care and treatment programme within the regular/general public and private health system and programme.*

1. **ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION:**

- Candidates with MBBS degree or its equivalent recognized by the Medical Council of India and completed one year compulsory rotating internship in a teaching institution or other institution recognized by the Medical Council of India, and has obtained permanent registration of any State Medical Council shall be eligible for admission.
- Candidates sponsored by an institution or Government shall be given first preference

2. **SELECTION/ ADMISSION PROCEDURE**

- The candidates will be selected on the basis of merit and aptitude
- A selection committee appointed by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka with members drawn from multiple stakeholders would finalize the list of selected candidates based on predetermined objective criteria.
- The Committee shall include Head of Institution conducting the programme, Head of the Department or Coordinator of the Programme, One subject specialist from another institution, a representative of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences nominated by the Vice Chancellor, One representative of Karnataka State AIDS Prevention Society nominated by the Project Director. The Chairman and Convener of the Committee would be designated by the University while constituting the committees.

3. **DURATION OF THE COURSE**

- The Course is *full time twelve months programme* consisting of six months of academic studies followed by six months of compulsory internship.

4. **FEE:**

- A Registration fee per candidate of Rs.10,000 shall be paid by the candidate or the sponsoring institution to the University. No capitation fee or donation shall be taken by the institution.
- The tuition fee shall be fixed by the Institution, and notified to the university well in advance. It shall be fully utilized by the Institution for

the management and upkeep of said Institution with all facilities and good infrastructure thus maintaining quality and excellence in higher education.

5. **INTAKE OF CANDIDATES:**

- The ratio of the number of candidates per bed related to the Specialty needed to be in the institution shall be 1:5. The intake for each programme shall be not more than 10 in an accredited institution. It shall be decided by the Registration Committee in consultation with the Head of the Department and Head of the Institution.

6. **ACADEMIC TERMS**

- All candidates would appear for the University examination after completion of the twelve months course

7. **ATTENDANCE**

- i. Each duration of the six months (Academic studies and Internship) course shall be taken as a Unit for the purpose of calculating attendance.
- ii. The candidate pursuing the programme should work shall work in the concerned department of the institution for the complete period prescribed as full time candidate. He/ She is not permitted to run or work in either a private clinic/laboratory/nursing home while pursuing the programme
- iii. He/ She shall attend the activities such as patient care in hospital including emergency, grand rounds, clinics, case presentations, journal review meetings, symposiums, seminars, assignments, lectures, laboratory or experimental work, conferences etc during the programme as prescribed by the Department and not absent himself/herself from work without valid reasons.
- iv. Leave of absence with permission of the Head of the Department up to a maximum of 12 days in a year is permitted
- v. A student shall be considered to have put in the required attendance for the semester if he/she has attended not less than 80% of the number of working periods [Theory, practical, Clinical, seminars and other curricular activities taken together].

- vi. A candidate who does not satisfy the requirement of Attendance shall not be eligible to take the University examination at the end of the course period.
- vii. A candidate who fails to satisfy the attendance requirement in a given course shall have to rejoin the course.

8. **MONITORING PROGRESS**

- *Work diary/ Log Book:* Every candidate shall maintain a work diary/ log book and record his/her participation in the various components of the training programme. Special mention shall be made of the presentations/ clinical and laboratory procedures made by the candidate. The work diary/log book shall be scrutinized and certified by the Head of the Department and Head of the Institution submitted to the University for review.

9.

A. **TEACHING HOURS for academic duration**

<b>Method</b>	<b>Unit 1 – Health and Management</b>	<b>Unit 2 - Basics of HIV</b>	<b>Unit – 3 HIV &amp; Special Situations</b>	<b>Research Project Work</b>
Theory	29 hours	75 hours	26 hours	60 hours
Clinicals	300hours			
Journal Club/Seminars	64 hours including 16 presentations by each fellow			
Counseling	60 hours			

B. **Structure of Internship**

The candidate shall pursue the compulsory rotating internship of 6 months in any recognized Government, Non Government or Private institution. The candidate has to complete internship in the following departments/sectors in order to be eligible for appearing in the University Examination.

- i. Community Care Centre for People living with HIV – 2 months
- ii. Antiretroviral Treatment Centre – 2months
- iii. Unit implementing Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme – 15 days.

- iv. Outreach programme with focus on Diagnosis and Treatment of Reproductive Tract and Sexually Transmitted Infections – 15 days
- v. Unit implementing programme on Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission of HIV – 15 days
- vi. Laboratory and Counseling Department – 15 days

#### 10. **MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION:**

The Medium of Instruction shall be English.

### 11. **SCHEME OF EXAMINATION**

#### 11.1 **Internal assessment ( 100 marks)**

- Monthly objective/Problem based Tests – aggregate of 2 best performances in tests each valued at 15 marks (total 30 marks)
- Monthly bedside Clinical Case discussions - aggregate of 2 best performances in case discussions each valued at 15 marks (total 30 marks)
- Log book of activities (10 marks)
- Fellow led Seminars and teaching sessions (30 marks)

A student should score at least 50% of the total marks fixed for internal assessment in order to be eligible for the University examination. Proper record of the work should be maintained which will be the basis of all candidates' internal assessment and the same should be available for scrutiny by appropriate authorities. The internal assessment marks of the candidates shall be sent to the University at least one week prior to the commencement of the University examination.

#### 11.2 **University Examination**

##### 8.2.1 **Eligibility For Examination**

*To be eligible to appear for University examination a candidate:*

- a. Shall have undergone satisfactorily the approved course of study in the approved institutions for the prescribed duration
- b. Shall have attended at least 80% of the total number of classes in Theory, practical, Clinical, seminars and other curricular activities jointly

- c. Shall secure at least 50% of the total marks fixed for internal assessment in both Theory and Practicals
- d. Shall fulfill any other requirement that may be prescribed by the University from time to time

### 8.2.2 Examination components and distribution of marks

	Particulars	Marks
<b>A</b>	<b>THEORY</b>	
1	Theory – 2 papers	50x2=100
2	Internal Assessment (Theory)	30
3	Structured Viva Voce	25
4	PROJECT WORK – <i>Presentation cum Viva Voce</i>	25
	<b>Total Theory</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>PRACTICAL/CLINICAL</b>	
<b>1</b>	Clinical Examination ( <i>1 long case for 40 marks, 2 short cases for 25 marks each and 10 marks for spotters</i> )	100
<b>2</b>	Internal Assessment (Practical)– <i>including Log book, Fellow led seminars, teaching sessions and Clinical Case discussions</i>	70
	<b>Total Practical/Clinical</b>	<b>170</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>350</b>

### 8.2.3 Types, number of questions and distribution of marks for EACH of the written papers. All questions should preferably be problem based.

Type of questions	Number of questions	Marks for each question	Total marks
Objective type	10	1	10
Short answer	05	2	10
Short Essay type	03	5	15
Essay type	01	15	15
<b>TOTAL MARKS</b>			<b>50</b>

- Each paper shall be for a duration of 2 hours and recent advances may be asked in or all of the papers
- Registrar(Evaluation) shall recommend the names of the paper setters to the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor from the panel suggested by the Head of the

Institution in consultation with the Programme Coordinator.

- The Written assessment shall be conducted at the place and on the dates notified by the Registrar (Evaluation) RGUHS
- The papers shall be valued by the examiners appointed for practical assessment who also will be notified by the Registrar (Evaluation)

#### **8.2.4 Examiners:**

- There shall be one Internal Examiner generally the Programme Coordinator and an external examiner appointed by the RGUHS. The appointment of the external examiner is by invitation based on a panel of three names given by the Programme Coordinator. The external examiner shall be paid TA and DA by the University as per RGUHS rules.

## **12. CRITERIA FOR PASS**

For declaration of 'PASS' in the Programme in the University examination, a candidate shall pass both in Theory and Practical/Clinical Examinations components separately as stipulated below

*For a pass in the Theory*, a candidate shall secure not less than 50% in aggregate i.e., marks obtained in University written examination, Structured Viva Voce, Project work presentation cum viva-voce and internal assessment (theory).

*For a pass in Practical/Clinical examination*, a candidate shall secure not less than 50% in aggregate, i.e., marks obtained in University Practical/Clinical Examination and internal assessment (practical) added together.

A candidate not securing 50% marks in aggregate in Theory or Practical/Clinical examination shall be declared to have 'Failed' and is required to appear for both Theory and Practical/Clinical examination again in the subsequent examination period.

## **13. DECLARATION OF CLASS**

- a. A candidate having appeared in the examination and passed the examination in first attempt and securing 75% of marks or more of grand total marks shall be declared to have passed the examination with *Distinction*

- b. A candidate having appeared in the examination and passed the examination in first attempt and securing 65% of marks or more but less than 75% of grand total marks shall be declared to have passed the examination in First Class
- c. A candidate having appeared in the examination and passed the examination in first attempt and securing 50% of marks or more but less than 65% of grand total marks shall be declared to have passed the examination in Second Class
- d. A candidate passing the examination in more than one attempt shall be placed in Pass Class

(Please note fraction of marks should not be rounded off for classes a, b, c)

#### **14. NUMBER OF CHANCES**

Candidates who have satisfactorily completed the duration of the course and also have minimum of 50% of marks in Internal Assessment but have not appeared for the University Examination or have failed in the first attempt of the University examination are eligible to appear for the University examination as and when the University announces the examination for a maximum of FIVE attempts. There would be no scope for improvement of Internal Assessment marks.

#### **15. CERTIFICATION**

Based on the recommendations made by the Examiners successful candidates shall be awarded the 'Fellow' scroll by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences.

#### **16. STIPEND**

Since the candidates pursuing the Programme would be providing service to the institution offering the programme the institution shall pay stipend and pay reasonable accommodation (at cost) equivalent to that of a resident.

#### **17. RECOGNITION OF THE INSTITUTION FOR THE COURSE**



- An institution desirous of starting the programme should have been in existence as a centre and engaged in implementation of AIDS control Program for at least 5 years.
- An institution starting the Fellow in HIV program should have in-house faculties listed below

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Teaching Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum of 3 qualified teachers or Consultants, of which one teacher appointed shall be full time. Other 2 may be part time visiting consultants and these two should not be faculty for the Fellowship Programme in any other institution</li> <li>• Post Graduate degree in Clinical specialties or Para Clinical like Pathology/Microbiology/Community medicine or Public Health (Post MBBS)</li> <li>• Professional experience of 5 years after post graduation or 3 years of teaching experience after Post graduation</li> </ul>
Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should have 50 beds with 20 beds dedicated for HIV positive patients' care</li> <li>• The clinical load shall be not less than 50 inpatients per month and not less than 50 outpatients per month</li> <li>• Should be providing at least the following 5 specialty services either full time or on visiting viz, Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Microbiology or Pathology, Pediatrics, Dermatology. Out of these at least 2 should be full time.</li> <li>• Should have a functioning Integrated Counseling and Testing Centre</li> <li>• Should be implementing Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission of HIV program including institutional delivery care</li> <li>• Should have a functioning Anti retroviral Treatment (ART) Centre or Link ART centre</li> <li>• Should be offering Services for Sexually Transmitted Infections</li> <li>• Should be implementing Revised National Tuberculosis Program</li> <li>• Should have laboratory facilities for diagnosing Opportunistic infections and monitoring treatment</li> <li>• Should have functioning Blood Bank or Blood Storage</li> </ul>

	<p>Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be undertaking community extension program in HIV sector</li> <li>• Should be undertaking Research activities in HIV sector</li> <li>• Should have established practices of waste management systems and standard precautions in the hospital for all patients irrespective of their HIV status</li> </ul>
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*The academic training programme should be held in the institution itself. Only institutions fulfilling all the requirements shall be allowed to conduct the programme and no relaxation in the requirements will be made.*

The Rajiv Gandhi University will arrange for inspection of the institution/department by a duly constituted registration committee for validation of the facilities, staff etc and will accord recognition based on the recommendation.

The applications received only on or before 31<sup>st</sup> March each year will be processed.

#### **18. REGISTRATION COMMITTEE:**

The Registration Committee will have members as follows.

1. One Syndicate member of RGUHS nominated by the Vice Chancellor, Chairman of the Committee
2. One or more subject specialist nominated by the Vice Chancellor