

# Design of a national Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine: Training programmes

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## Introduction

The workshop was held 09h00-17h00 at the City Lodge, OR Tambo on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

A 1-day workshop was held with the universities that are currently running Diploma programmes or intend to apply for accreditation of a Diploma programme. The College of Family Physicians also attended as they offer a Higher Diploma examination.

The purpose of the workshop was to finalise the design phase for the new national postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine.

This document gives a brief summary of the workshop and links to the various presentations and documents.

## Attendance

B Schweitzer, G. Bresick (University of Cape Town), B Mash, J Blitz, K von Pressentin, Z Malan (Stellenbosch University), S. Rangiah, M Naidoo, B. Gaede, L Campbell T. Moodley( University of Kwa Zulu Natal), J Chandia, P. Yogeswaran (Walter Sisulu University), N Mofolo, H Steinberg (University of the Free State), G Botha (Pretoria University), I Govender, G Ogunbanjo (Sefako Makgatho University) L Baldwin-Ragaven, R Cooke (Witwatersrand University), G Marincowitz (University of Limpopo)

## Report back on progress from existing Diploma programmes

Each of the existing programmes made a brief powerpoint presentation of how they have revised their programmes since the previous workshop in November and what still needs to happen in 2015. This also enabled the other universities to see which programmes they would like to share material with or use as a model.

- [University of Cape Town](#) – Graham Bresick
- [Stellenbosch University](#) – Julia Blitz
- [University of KwaZulu-Natal](#) – Clive Rangiah
- [University of Pretoria](#) – Gerhard Botha

Presenters reminded us of the generic definition of a postgraduate diploma:

- A Postgraduate Diploma is generally multi- or interdisciplinary in nature but may serve to strengthen and deepen the student's knowledge in a particular discipline or profession.

- The primary purpose of the Postgraduate Diploma is to enable working professionals to undertake advanced reflection and development by means of a systematic survey of current thinking, practice and research methods in an area of specialisation.
- This qualification demands a high level of theoretical engagement and intellectual independence.
- Note that a sustained research project is not required but the qualification may include conducting and reporting research under supervision.

The programme from KwaZulu-Natal was recently approved by DoHET, CHE and SAQA and therefore can assist with making a successfully application. Their proposed Diploma, which will start 2016, will consist of 4 modules (32 credits each):

1. Principles and tools of family medicine
2. Personal and family health
3. Acute and chronic disease
4. Infectious diseases

The programme at University of Pretoria requires some extensive revision and the proposed new structure is 8 modules:

1. The Principles and Philosophy of Family Medicine.
2. The Consultation – a comprehensive approach to the person.
3. Family orientated patient care
4. Community orientated primary care (new)
5. Clinical module
6. Chronic Comprehensive care
7. Leadership and governance
8. Teaching and Learning

The revised programme at University of Cape Town is shown in the Table and will also be available to other primary care providers.

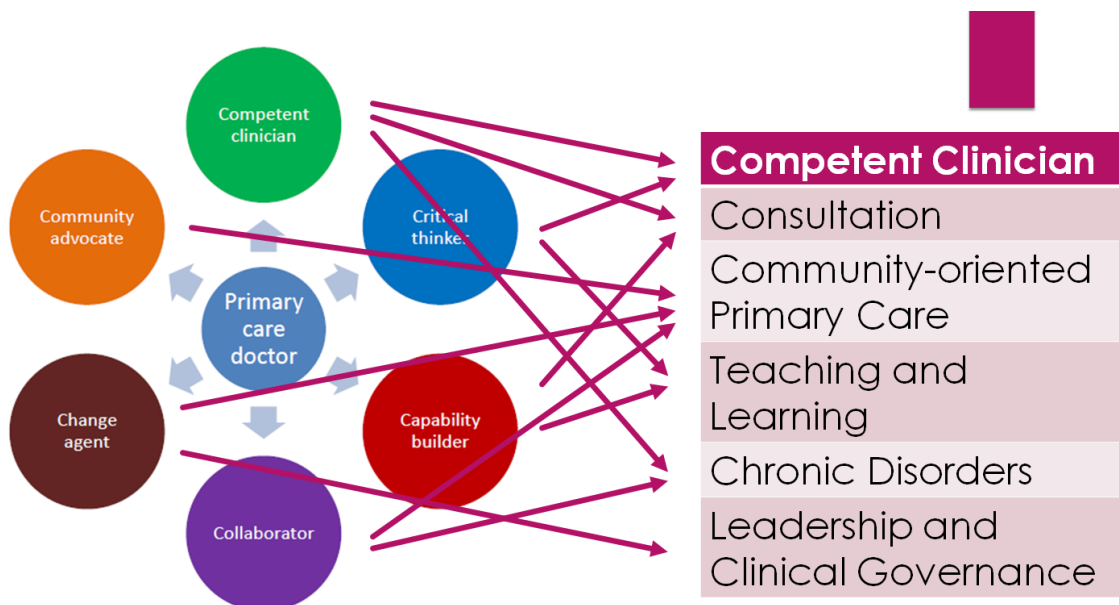
		HEQS-F level	NQF credits
	<b>Year 1</b>		
	PPH4004F	Principles of Family Medicine*	8 16
	PPH4005S	Evidence-based Medicine	8 13
	PPH4007S	Ethics*	8 12
	PPH4011S	Clinical Medicine B	8 18

Year 2				
PPH4006S	Clinical Medicine A	8	20	
PPH4028F	Child and Family Health*	8	20	
PPH4029H	Prevention & Promotion; Chronic Illness*	8	21	
PPH4054S	Integrated Assessment	8	0	
<b>Total NQF credits:</b>			<b>120</b>	

The revised programme at Stellenbosch University is shown in the Table below and requires the development of one new module and revision of the others. The teaching and learning module and leadership and governance module will be revised from the MMed programme.

Year	1	Competent Clinician	New
1	2	Consultation	Existing
	3	Community-oriented Primary Care	
	4	Teaching and Learning	
2	5	Chronic Disorders	
	6	Leadership and Clinical Governance	

The mapping of modules onto the learning outcomes for the six roles is illustrated below.



## Discussion on the key educational design principles

An extensive discussion was held on the issues listed below and the final consensus is summarised in the document for the [Stakeholders Workshop](#) that was held the next day. It is not repeated here to avoid repetition.

- Approach to teaching
- Training sites
- Academic programme
- Workplace based learning and assessment
- Final assessment
- Quality assurance
- Incentives and going to scale

## Applying for a new academic programme

Tilly Moodley presented and discussed the process of applying for a new programme to the Department of Higher Education and Training, Council on Higher Education and South African Qualifications Authority and went through the forms in some detail.

Podcasts of her talks are available at:

<http://fmhspod.sun.ac.za/Podcasts/FamilyMedicine.aspx?moid=13863>

The forms required were distributed at the workshop, but each university will have their own internal process of completing the paperwork. The web links to these three authorities' websites are available at:

<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/healthsciences/Family%20Medicine%20and%20Primary%20Care/Pages/National-Stakeholder-workshop.aspx>

## The way forward

The University of KZN will circulate their completed application as a template. We hope to submit the new applications simultaneously if possible. Each university will engage with their internal process for applying for new programmes.

The rationale for the programme can be constructed from arguments put forward in the original EU application as well as key points made in this workshop (see for example the KZN presentation on their Diploma).

Bob Mash will approach the HPCSA for a single letter of support for the new programmes.

Bob Mash and Gboyega Ogunbanjo will revise the College Diploma recommendations and present at the next College council. All the College council were invited to the stakeholder workshop.

Progress with the Diploma will be monitored and co-ordinated by the ETC of the Academy and the next meeting will be 21<sup>st</sup> April in Cape Town.