



In the Name of God

Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Health and Medical Education
Deputy Ministry for Education

Pediatric Gastroenterology

Degree: Subspecialty

Introduction:

Pediatric gastrointestinal, liver, and nutritional diseases are important diseases that threaten lives of millions of children worldwide. For example, according to available information, three millions of children annually die due to diarrheal diseases in the world and malnutrition causes 50% of under-five deaths. Therefore, scientific service centers around the world should train the required subspecialists to provide optimum services for these diseases. Since 1997 that the American Pediatric Gastroenterological Association was founded in Philadelphia, many years passed until the Pediatric Gastroenterology fellowship commenced. Since then, a significant progress was made in diagnosis and management of pediatric gastroenterology diseases. In Iran, this course was established with no official curriculum in 1989. In 2008, the Council for Graduate Medical Education began developing specialty and subspecialty training curricula. Therefore, a committee was formed for development of pediatric gastroenterology curriculum.

Definition and Duration of the Training Program:

Pediatric gastroenterology fellowship is a subspecialty of pediatrics, and the graduates obtain the necessary knowledge, attitudes, and skills in the areas of prevention, diagnosis, and management of pediatric gastrointestinal and liver diseases, patient care, and child nutrition, and will provide services to the community. In addition, they will employ their experiences and knowledge for educating people on related subjects and science production in the relevant specialized field.

Course Duration:

This this course lasts 2 years.

Aims:

1. To train sub specialists who are scientifically update, competent, sensitive to the problems of country, and committed to professionalism and who will provide the society with their knowledge and skills in the areas of prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with gastrointestinal, liver, and nutritional diseases, and education and research in the relevant fields.
2. In the next 10 years, we will be among the top countries in the Middle East in this field.

Admission Requirements

- M.B.B.S./M.D. and specialty or equivalent certificates
- Certificate of Internship or Certificate of Practice

Language Requirements:

- Language requirements: Evidence of English Proficiency on the TOEFL or IELTS tests. The minimum score for TOEFL PBT, TOEFL iBT and IELTS is 533, 72 and 5.5 respectively.
- Applicants from Persian (Farsi) Speaking countries (They shall both speak and write in Persian) who have applied for graduate Degree-based programs may be exempted, based on the decision of the department, from submitting any certificates regarding their English Language Proficiency. Nevertheless, they are required to hand in their English language certificate which meets SUMS' minimal language proficiency requirements, within one year from commencing their studies at SUMS.

Expected Competencies at the End of the Program

General Competencies*

Procedural Skills (Diagnostic-Therapeutic Procedures):

- Upper endoscopy
- Rectosigmoidoscopy
- Full colonoscopy
- Polypectomy
- Sclerotherapy
- Anorectal manometry
- Esophagus PH measurement
- Abdominal paracentesis
- Liver biopsy
- Banding of esophageal varices
- Removing foreign objects from the esophagus, stomach, and duodenum
- Osophageal dilatation

Educational Strategies, Methods and Techniques*

Student Assessment:

Assessment Methods:

- Written exam
- Assessment of clinical skills through DOPS
- Logbook assessment
- 360-degree feedback

Periods of Assessment:

- Continuous assessment
- Annual assessment
- Final examination

Ethical Considerations*

*Note: The related document(s) can be found at <http://hcmep.behdasht.gov.ir/>.

The overall structure of the course:

Educational ward, unit, or education setting	Syllabus- Measures	Duration (month)
Pediatric gastroenterology ward	Visiting inpatients, patient care- stabilizing the inpatients - performing bedside diagnostic-therapeutic procedures, teaching the lower-level classes, and other measures in accordance with the curriculum organized by the ward	22 months
Pediatric Surgery ward	Diagnosing and following up patients who require surgery due to gastrointestinal diseases	One month
Pediatric radiology ward	Checking radiological changes of pediatric gastrointestinal diseases	One 1-2 hour session a week During the course
Pediatric pathology ward	Learning histological changes in gastrointestinal diseases	One 1-2 hour session a week during the course
Pediatric endoscopy unit	Observing, assisting, and performing the relevant endoscopy; diagnosis and treatment of pediatric gastrointestinal lesions	One day a week during the course
Pediatric gastroenterology clinic	Outpatient visit- selecting, filing cases, and hospitalizing patients- following up the expert consultations given to patients, performing outpatient procedures, teaching the lower-level classes, responding to expert consultations requested, and other measures in accordance with the program organized by the ward	Two days a week during the course
Elective ward	It depends on the ward elected	One month

Important Notice:

The above features the curriculum of the Pediatric Gastroenterology Program designed and approved by the Iranian Ministry of Health and Medical Education. Given the fact that Shiraz University of Medical Sciences is constantly improving and updating itself to meet the international academic standards and the state of the art, and based on the availability of facilities, devices, ward, laboratories, etc. at SUMS, all the SUMS curricula are approximately 20% subject to change.