#### What is this course about?

The University of Hong Kong offers Master of Medical Sciences (MMedSc) OBGY6600 Genetic Counselling as one of the Specialized Fields of Study. This is the first course of its kind in Hong Kong to provide participants from clinical and laboratory backgrounds with a foundation in the growing field of genetic counselling. Genetic services are increasingly recognized as an indispensable part of modern health care services. The course is aimed at providing the participants with theoretical and practical knowledge of genetic counselling. Specifically, the course will enable the participants to determine when to suspect hereditary/genetic conditions and recognize more common inherited conditions in different clinical settings.

MMedSc candidates are required to complete 200 hours of coursework, comprising 4 Core Modules, as well as 6 Specialized Modules in a chosen Specialized Field of Study. Further 200 hours will be spent on a research project leading to a dissertation in a chosen specialty. The modular configuration of the programme also permits those not seeking the MMedSc qualification to take only selected Core or Specialized Modules.

#### Teaching staff from:

- Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine
- Department of Pathology
- Department of Community Medicine
- School of Nursing
- School of English
- Centre of Reproduction, Growth and Development
- Centre for the Humanities and Medicine

Local and overseas experts on genetic counselling

CME/CNE/MLT points accredited

We would like to invite you to attend our Information Session that will provide more information about this Specialized Field of Study in Genetic Counselling.

Highlights of Information Session:

- An overview of the course
- Meet the Faculty to answer questions
- Information on admission procedures

#### **Target participants**

Open to all local / regional doctors, nurses, scientists and other professionals with clinical or laboratory background or interest in genetic counselling.

# Deadline for application of occasional students

Before each module commences

#### **Enquiries**:

Ms Amy Wong (Tel: 39179155; Email: <u>ylwongd@hkucc.hku.hk</u>)

Dr Mary Tang (Tel: 25892355; Email: tanghym@ha.org.hk)

## Specialized Field of Study in Master of Medical Sciences [MMedSc]



Please visit <u>www.obsgyn.hku.hk/mgc</u> for updates. (Mobile phone: <u>www.obsgyn.hku.hk/m-mgc</u>)



Organized by The Consortium of Clinical Genetics The University of Hong Kong



## Module 1 Principle of Genetic Counselling Dec – Feb (20 hours) (Dates TBC)

Coordinator: Dr Brian Chung (Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine)

This module introduces the students to the principles of genetic counseling. Topics covered include mode of inheritance, counselling theory, interviewing techniques and administrative skills in genetic counselling. The module will also include practical sessions to master the skills for counselling children and adults with genetic disorders.

Mode of teaching: video self-study, lecture Assessment: class assignments, attendance

### Module 2

### Risk Calculation & Effective Communication in Genetic Counselling

Mar – May (20 hours) (Dates TBC)

Coordinators: Dr CP Lee (Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology) & Dr Olga Zayts (School of English)

The aim of this module is to equip the students with communication skills specific to the setting of genetic counseling. The module consists of two parts. The first part should be taken before Module 4 (where clinical attachment is required) so that the skills learned can be applied during clinical attachment. Each student will have one of his/her face-to-face consultation videotaped during the clinical attachment in Module 4. Clips of the video will be selected for presentation in the workshops in the second part of this module, which will take place after Module 4 is completed. Workshops with active student participation are used for most of the teaching in this module.

Mode of teaching: lecture, workshop Assessment: class assignments, attendance

#### Module 3

## Clinical Application of Genetic, Cytogenetic & Biochemical Analyses in Genetic Diagnosis and Screening

July - August (20 hours) (Dates TBC)

Coordinator: Prof CW Lam (Department of Pathology)

This module introduces the general principles of cytogenetics, biochemical genetics and molecular genetics in genetic testing and the various laboratory techniques for identification of disease-causing mutations. Through the practical sessions and group discussion, students will learn how to read a laboratory report.

Mode of teaching: lecture, tutorial, laboratory visits

Assessment: class assignments, attendance

## Module 4

**Genetics in Medicine** Nov – Mar (40 hours) (Dates TBC)

Coordinators: Dr Mary Tang (Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology) & Dr Brian Chung (Department of Paediatrics and Adolescent Medicine)

This module is designed to provide the knowledge of normal development in pregnancy and childhood. Students will learn about embryonic and fetal development, the stages of pregnancy, common pregnancy-related problems; normal childhood development, methods of developmental assessment; services available to individuals with special needs; and common abnormalities affecting the various body systems. The module also provides an approach to establishing a differential diagnosis incorporating principles of embryological development, dysmorphology, teratology, inborn errors of metabolism, laboratory findings and traditional and non-traditional genetic concepts. Whenever possible, disorders will be studied from the molecular defect to phenotype to burden. Clinical attachments in this module will allow students to put these concepts and approaches into practice.

Mode of teaching: lecture, tutorial, web-based teaching, clinic attachment

Assessment: web-based assignment, tutorial assignment, clinic attachment, attendance

### Module 5

## **Public Health Genomics**

Feb – May (20 hours) (Dates TBC)

Coordinator: Dr Dennis Ip (Department of Community Medicine)

This module focuses on the public health implications of advances in genetic and molecular science for preventing diseases and improving the health of the population. This module will be centered on an understanding how genetic and environmental factors work together in determining susceptibility to common diseases in individuals and populations. It will also include an understanding of basic public health principles and the implications of genetic knowledge and developments for public health service provision, and the ethical, legal, cultural and policy issues involved in applying genomics to public health.

#### Mode of teaching: lecture

Assessment: presentation of group project, attendance