

# GHHM Prospectus 2025–26



**THE GLOBAL HEALTH AND HUMANITARIAN MEDICINE COURSE**





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# A message from the GHHM team

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While this course allows you to prepare for a postgraduate diploma, we encourage you to reflect on the significance of the humanitarian medicine aspect of GHHM and your role at the confluence of clinical and humanitarian medicine. We will equip you with the right set of tools to help you achieve your professional aspirations and bolster your knowledge and skills so that you can carve your niche in the world of academia, clinical medicine, public health and humanitarian responses. At the heart of GHHM is a diverse global network of doctors committed to breaking down barriers and providing equitable access to an exceptional educational opportunity. Through the course webinars, online work and discussions, we endeavour to foster a space that is not only intellectually stimulating but also diverse, receptive, and inclusive of the varied experiences of lecturers, moderators and students. We look forward to welcoming you on this educational journey and into the wider GHHM community. We hope that you enjoy the experience as much as our alumni have and that your role as a medical doctor, in whatever environment you choose to work in, is enriched through your learning with us.

# Why GHHM?



100% of GHHM lectures are delivered online.



All participants have the same learning experience regardless of their location.



The course has two-and-a-half hours of mandatory contact time per week and an additional six to eight hours of self-directed learning.



Participants can continue to work while attending GHHM.



While the course aims to prepare you for the Diploma in Global Health examination, its purpose is greater than exam preparation.



GHHM delivers lectures with a focus on preparing doctors for the reality of work in a resource-constrained or humanitarian intervention setting.

# Participant requirements:

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- Primary medical degree of Bachelor in Medicine and Surgery (MBBS) or equivalent Doctor in Medicine degree



- Minimum of two years' experience working as a medical doctor in medical practice (excluding mandatory internship)



- Registration with recognised respective Medical Council

# The 2024-2025 GHHM cohort:

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53

nationalities represented;

83%

residing in low- or middle-income countries;

85%

nationals from low- or middle-income countries.



# What our students say



The GHHM course was not only an amazing learning experience, but also an inspiring one. I've benefited so much from the course during my professional journey after completing it, as there were a lot of topics that are not part of the standard curriculum in my country of origin. I also gained many insights and perspectives related to humanitarian medicine, which I wouldn't have learned of otherwise. Being taught by enthusiastic experts was definitely a plus, as well!"

**Dr Samantha**

– Myanmar Medical Activity Manager for MSF



Completing the MSF GHHM course in 2021-2022 is probably one of the best things I have done in my 35-year professional working life. I am a senior neonatal paediatrician in the UK who has always had an interest in global health. In the course, I learnt so much about conditions I never see in my day-to-day clinical practice. There were times when I was completely out of my comfort zone as I had limited knowledge about many of the “common tropical illnesses”. The course was superbly organised and I always felt supported. The course organisers and weekly speakers were inspirational. In group sessions, I met the most amazing colleagues and learnt so much from them. With all this support I was able to pass the Diploma in Tropical Medicine – my first exam in over 30 years. For me the experience was life-changing and I hope to work with MSF over the coming years. Do the GHHM course. It's challenging but worth it. You will not regret it.”

**Dr Wilf Kelsall**

– Consultant Paediatrician



GHHM was a key learning experience in my career. During the months I was part of the course, I eagerly waited every week to connect to the seminars. What I learned from the expert lecturers and my colleagues has had a tremendous impact in my day-to-day work in every setting I have been with MSF.”

**Dr Maritza Regardiz**

– Medical Programmes Support – MSF Central America and Mexico Integrated Office (Mexico City)



In the era of specialised medicine, a course like GHHM helps me to gain knowledge about conditions that I don't deal with in everyday practice while on an assignment. The updated and advanced knowledge of tropical diseases and their management, as well as other public health-related issues, is certainly welcome! The GHHM course covers a significant number of tropical conditions that we deal with in remote areas and in the field postings of MSF, be they parasites, infectious diseases or public health scenarios that we come across while dealing with refugees and displaced people. Apart from the MSF guidelines, attending this course will certainly make it less stressful to manage some of the diseases we commonly encounter in remote settings.”

**Chandrika Rao**

– International Field Staff, MSF



The Global Health & Humanitarian Medicine (GHHM) course was something I accidentally stumbled upon while browsing the internet one fine day in April 2018. Being a clinical microbiologist by profession, I was interested in educating myself further in the field of tropical medicine and infectious diseases. The best parts of this course were the webinar-based learning, the contact programme at CMC Vellore, and, of course, its affordability. Through this course, I got to meet so many amazing people from different parts of India and the world. Also, I learnt about an organisation called “MSF”, which is doing some ground-breaking and exceptional humanitarian work. I am currently working as Assistant Professor in the Department of Microbiology at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Rishikesh. It is my dream to train more ... medical graduates in various aspects of clinical microbiology and infectious diseases, which include patient care, research and public health.”

**Mohit Bhatia**

– Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, AIIMS, Rishikesh

# What is the Global Health & Humanitarian Medicine course?

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## Overview



The Global Health & Humanitarian Medicine (GHHM) course is designed to equip medical doctors with the medical knowledge and skills required to work in resource constrained and/or humanitarian intervention settings. Organised by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), it is a part-time, online, blended learning course. It will provide up-to-date teaching and guidance on key areas in clinical infectious diseases, global public health, non-communicable diseases and mental health, women's and child health and humanitarian intervention medicine. Teaching will be delivered by clinicians and colleagues from academic institutions and international organisations (including MSF) across the globe.

The GHHM course will also prepare students to take the Diploma in Global Health (DGH) examination, organised by The Royal College of Physicians (RCP), UK. The DGH is a brand-new diploma, developed collaboratively by GHHM and the RCP. GHHM also prepares students to take other postgraduate exams such as the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene examination. Find out more about the Diploma in Global Health here: <https://www.rcp.ac.uk/events-and-education/education-and-learning/exams-and-assessment/diploma-in-global-health/>

## Aim

The GHHM course aims to provide affordable global access to high-quality teaching in clinical infectious diseases, global public health and humanitarian intervention medicine, to improve patient care, organisation of health services, and humanitarian medical interventions in resource-constrained or complex humanitarian settings. There will be a strong focus on the principles and standards followed during humanitarian medical interventions and the lived experiences of healthcare workers and the populations they serve.

Our hybrid teaching model will provide opportunities for collaboration and interaction with like-minded professionals. It will include an online platform, where you can work through our resources and self-directed learning materials, and weekly online seminars. The learning environment will be welcoming and stimulating, with access to lecturers who are internationally recognised in their field.

Virtual microscopy and parasitology training is included in the course teaching.

## Who is the course for?

The GHHM course is designed for medical doctors who hold a primary medical qualification (MBBS, MB ChB, or its equivalent) from a recognised medical school in any country AND a minimum of two years of post-internship clinical work experience. While we welcome applications from qualified medical doctors from all countries, we prioritise applications from those who intend to work, or are already working in, resource-constrained settings through MSF, Ministries of Health, or other health care providers or medical humanitarian organisations.



## Why this course?

Medical doctors working in resource-constrained settings face many challenges in providing healthcare and organising humanitarian medical interventions. Though such exposure provides them with a wealth of hands-on experience, their opportunities to access formal continued medical education are limited.

The course is part-time, running over nine months, so that you can fit your studies around your work. We ask that you attend our weekly live seminars and then complete additional work online in your own time.

Affordability is important to us. We have worked hard to make the GHHM course affordable for anyone hoping to join us.

And finally, our content! Our curriculum is written to directly reflect and complement the way doctors work in resource-constrained settings. We want our syllabus to be relevant, exciting and interesting.

We use unique methods to teach our innovative syllabus. If you want to deepen your knowledge and understanding by taking part in simulations and interactive webinars on, for example, outbreak control and investigation, or sexual and reproductive health, then this is the course for you. We strongly believe that we can learn from each other, and we will provide an environment where everyone can feel confident to share their experiences and learn collaboratively.



# Course Information

The GHHM Course will run from September 2025 to May 2026 with approximately 37 weeks of teaching. During this period, we will guide our students through key topics in global health and humanitarian medicine.



## Where and how we teach

As well as combining online learning with weekly live seminars, peer learning will be encouraged through online group activities and self-directed learning. We will host interactive live seminars every few weeks, inviting students to share their experiences in breakout room seminars.

As part of our curriculum, we will host a series of virtual microscopy and parasitology sessions. Alongside these sessions, you will be given access to our Parasitology Handbook, our online Parasitology revision app, and a range of additional resources.

We record most of our seminars. If you miss a session, a recorded version and the slide presentation will be available on our online platform.

The course is organised by MSF UK and MSF South Asia.

## After GHHM

Once you have completed the GHHM course, you will be invited to join the GHHM Alumni Network. The GHHM Alumni Network is an online community of former GHHM students, lecturers and members of the teaching faculty. It is a space where you can re-connect with your classmates, make new connections and access relevant news and events. You will also have access to mentoring opportunities, learning resources and medical guidelines to support you in your clinical work after GHHM.

Over 1,200 medical doctors from across the globe have now completed the GHHM course. By joining the Alumni Network, you will have an opportunity to join a diverse and dynamic professional network of medical doctors from a wide variety of medical specialities and clinical backgrounds. Whether you are working for MSF or a ministry of health, in a resource-limited or high-resource environment, you will benefit from the shared experience of having taken the GHHM course. GHHM hopes that the Alumni Network will enable you to build from that shared experience and discover new opportunities in your career, while continuing to strengthen your clinical practice.





## Which site should I apply to?

GHHM divides learners into two groups to enable physicians to attend webinars when convenient for the time zone of their residence. Learners residing in Africa, Europe and the Americas are hosted online from the MSF UK office. Learners residing in Asia and Oceania are hosted online from MSF South Asia.

## Course contributors

We collaborate with international academics, clinicians, and experts to provide you with outstanding teaching on key technical areas and programmatic aspects in global health and humanitarian medicine.

## Costs

We run the GHHM course with a small administrative team. All course fees cover a percentage of the course costs with the remainder funded by MSF UK.

We will supply an invoice and can provide letters to support funding applications. The fee tier is informed by the World Bank income classification. The relevant amount should be paid as a one-time fee, either to MSF South Asia or to MSF UK, depending on your country of residence:

- £2,760 for students whose country of residence is in the European Economic Area or a High-Income Country (HIC)
- £750 for students whose country of residence is in an Upper Middle-Income Country (UMIC)
- £650 for students whose country of residence is in a Lower Middle-Income Country (LMIC)
- £550 for students whose country of residence is in a Low-Income Country (LIC).

To find out which tier you fall into, refer to <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519>

Examination fees are paid directly to the examining body. The Diploma in Global Health examination is expected to be held online in July 2026.

Medical doctors who are nationals of, and are residing in, a low-income or lower middle-income country may apply for a bursary to cover their GHHM course fee and exam fee for the Diploma in Global Health, should they wish to attempt the exam. More information on bursaries can be found on our web page: [msf.org.uk/global-health-and-humanitarian-medicine-course](https://msf.org.uk/global-health-and-humanitarian-medicine-course)



## Student workload

The weekly seminars run from:

- 18:00-20:00 GMT every Tuesday (for the GHHM UK course)
- 16:00 to 18:00 IST every Thursday (for the GHHM SA course)

You will be required to dedicate approximately two-and-a half hours every week to the online seminar and a further six to eight hours for self-directed learning and group activities. In a usual week throughout the nine-month course year, the six to eight hours, should include the two-hour seminars, online activity, and self-directed learning. However, the student workload will be higher when attending the microscopy and parasitology training sessions, during the additional half-day teaching days (on Saturdays – five hours, three times a year), and during exam preparation sessions leading up to the DGH examination (and other exams).

A typical week during the course might look like this:

- Monday: prepare for weekly quiz in advance of the seminar (Tuesday or Thursday depending on your learning group); check the GHHM online platform for materials – there will be weekly activities and quizzes to complete.
- Tuesday 18:00-20:00 GMT or Thursday 16:00-20:00 IST: webinar, quiz answers are released and discussed live, with opportunities to ask questions.
- Throughout the week, review online materials. Review extra reading material, prepare for exam questions or practise answer writing. Check in with your online group regarding any activity or essay question.



# GHHM learning outcomes

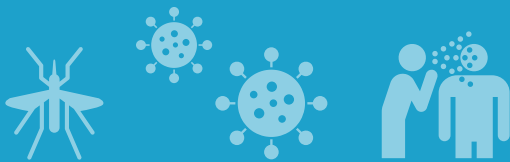
On completion of GHHM, you will have knowledge and understanding of:

- The key global health challenges and emerging threats to populations worldwide
- Evidence-based decision-making in clinical infectious diseases in resource-challenged settings and humanitarian intervention contexts
- The principles of programmatic interventions in resource-challenged settings and how to apply this to real-world settings
- The inequities and inequalities faced by vulnerable groups accessing healthcare globally and strategies to address this

## GHHM themes



**Non-communicable diseases and Mental Health**



**Clinical Infectious Diseases**



**Global Public Health**



**Women's and Child Health**



**Humanitarian Medicine**



## Things to remember

### Attendance

The minimum requirement for course completion is:

1. 70% attendance in the weekly webinars
2. Contribution to 70% of the online activities
3. Completion of mock exam
4. Participation in the (minimum) 12 hours of basic microscopy and parasitology training

We understand that you have existing work commitments. If you foresee yourself struggling to meet the attendance requirements, we ask that you let us know so that we can support you.

### Admission requirements and how to apply?

Candidates must be:

- Registered medical practitioners: MBBS (or its equivalent) with at least two years of post-internship, clinical work experience
- Proficient in the English language

Candidates are eligible to apply if they meet the above criteria and state their motivation to participate in the GHHM course. A GHHM committee will make the final selection. Medical doctors with a humanitarian assistance background and a demonstrable interest in global health will be given priority.



## Contact us

### APPLICATION ENQUIRIES:

For doctors based in Africa, Europe or the Americas: [ghhm@london.msf.org](mailto:ghhm@london.msf.org)

For doctors based in Asia or Oceania: [ghhm@south-asia.msf.org](mailto:ghhm@south-asia.msf.org)

### WEBSITES:

<https://msf.org.uk/global-health-and-humanitarian-medicine-course>

<https://ghhmsouthasia.msfindia.in>

