



Ultrasound  
Academy

# Postgraduate Prospectus

PG Certificate in  
Ultrasound for  
Family Medicine

# PG Certificate in Ultrasound for Family Medicine

## INTRODUCTION

The Postgraduate Certificate in Ultrasound for Family Medicine is designed for clinicians working in primary care who wish to integrate point-of-care ultrasound into routine clinical practice.

The programme combines a strong foundation in ultrasound fundamentals with applications that are highly relevant to family medicine, enabling practitioners to enhance diagnostic accuracy, improve patient management and support clinical decision-making at the point of care.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

No previous ultrasound experience required. Applicants must be registered medical doctors or healthcare practitioners of good professional standing and be proficient in English.

Applicants whose first language is not English may be required to provide evidence of English language proficiency through a recognised qualification such as IELTS, TOEFL, Cambridge C1 or equivalent.

Link to Identity Malta's VISA requirement for third country nationals:

<https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visaunit/>

## PROGRAMME INFORMATION

### MQF Level

Level 7

### Accreditation Category

Higher Education Programme

### EQF Level

Level 7

### Mode of Study

Blended Learning  
(60% Online / 40% In-Person)

### ECTS

30 Credits

### Duration

12 Months (Part Time)

### Programme Type

Qualification

## DESCRIPTION

The programme covers an introduction to the Fundamentals of Ultrasound Scanning for Family Medicine and six valuable clinical applications including:

- > Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) Ultrasound
- > Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) Ultrasound
- > Renal Ultrasound
- > Hepatobiliary Ultrasound
- > Core Echocardiography
- > Musculoskeletal Basics and Soft Tissue Ultrasound

The programme is highly practical and is delivered through a combination of blended learning, mentored scanning and work-based clinical practice.

Most theoretical content is delivered online and can be completed at the student's own pace prior to attending practical workshops. Students develop competency through supervised scanning, mentor support and workplace-based experience.

## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

### Module 1

1<sup>st</sup> Semester

Ultrasound Fundamentals for Family Medicine  
8 ECTS | 200 hours

### Module 2

1<sup>st</sup> Semester

Clinical Module 1  
11 ECTS | 275 hours

#### Applications:

- Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)
- Renal Ultrasound

### Module 3

2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

Clinical Module 2  
11 ECTS | 275 hours

#### Applications:

- Hepatobiliary Ultrasound
- Core Echocardiography
- Musculoskeletal Basics and Soft Tissue Ultrasound

**Total Programme Credits: 30 ECTS**

There are three components involved in learning Point-of-Care Ultrasound:

1

### **SCAN TECHNIQUE**

Learning the correct scanning technique to acquire diagnostic quality images and apply strategies to overcome technical challenges and patient-related limitations.

2

### **INTERPRETATION**

Interpretation of ultrasound images to identify normal anatomy and recognise the presence or absence of pathology.

3

### **INTEGRATION**

Understanding how ultrasound findings influence clinical reasoning, diagnosis and patient management within surgical practice.

Scanning technique is primarily learned through mentoring and supervised practice. Skills are first taught during intensive hands-on training sessions with substantial supervised scanning to establish a strong technical foundation.

This is supplemented by work-based clinical practice designed to reinforce correct technique in real-world patient populations. A proportion of scans must be mentored to ensure appropriate progression and competency development.

Throughout the programme, students participate in one-to-one mentor encounters during which they practice applications, receive feedback, address learning needs and review progress towards logbook completion.

Candidates are required to complete a minimum of 200 documented ultrasound examinations and maintain a clinical logbook demonstrating progressive competence.

Interpretation and integration are taught through real-world clinical cases, pathological image review, case-based discussions and clinical decision-making exercises. These activities help learners understand not only how to perform ultrasound examinations but also when and how to apply ultrasound findings appropriately within surgical care.

## ASSESSMENT

Assessment consists of:

- > Multiple Choice Question (MCQ) examinations
- > Clinical case-based short answer questions
- > Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs)
- > Clinical logbook completion
- > Formative assessment during mentor-mentee meetings
- > Literature review

## GRADING SYSTEM

The Overall Grading will be as follows:

- > Fail <50%
- > Pass 50-59%
- > Pass with Merit 60-69%
- > Pass with Distinction  $\geq 70\%$

Students must demonstrate competence in image acquisition, image interpretation and clinical integration across all applications.

Successful completion of the programme leads to the award of the:

**POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ULTRASOUND FOR FAMILY MEDICINE**

**MQF Level 7 | EQF Level 7 | 30 ECTS Credits**



**Ultrasound Academy**

145 Triq il-Miġbħa, Il-Mellieħa. MLH2245, Malta

**Phone:** +356 7953 7587

**Email:** [info@ultrasoundacademy.org](mailto:info@ultrasoundacademy.org)

[www.ultrasoundacademy.org](http://www.ultrasoundacademy.org)