

**THE LICENTIATE COMMITTEE  
OF THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF HONG KONG**

**Guidelines 2 -  
Exemption in Licensing Examination**

***Application***

1. Application for exemption from any part of the Licensing Examination should be made in Form 3 “Application for Exemption”. Form 3 should be submitted together with Form 1 “Registration as Candidate”; or Form 2 “Application to Take Licensing Examination”. Documentary proof must be provided in support.

***Part I: Examination in Professional Knowledge***

2. Section 7(5) of the Medical Registration Ordinance (Cap. 161) stipulates that the Medical Council shall not exempt a person from taking a part of the Licensing Examination in respect of medical knowledge unless he satisfies the Council that he has substantial experience of the practice of medicine, surgery and midwifery.
3. Exemption will be granted only in respect of the part(s) which the applicant has proved to have substantial experience of practice in the relevant discipline(s).
4. The applicant-
  - (i) must have substantial experience of practice in the relevant discipline, which demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Licentiate Committee achievement of the professional standard in that discipline required for registration as medical practitioner;
  - (ii) should have a minimum of 10 years post-registration experience in the relevant discipline;
  - (iii) should, in the opinion of the Licentiate Committee, have outstanding qualities and be an internationally renowned medical practitioner in the relevant discipline; and
  - (iv) should not have a history of matters which reflect adversely upon his professional competence in the relevant discipline, such as failure in the relevant part of the Licensing Examination or of other qualifying examination for registration in other jurisdictions.

***Part II: Proficiency Test in Medical English***

5. The Medical Council decided that, with effect from 1 January 2011, all candidates are required to take Part II: Proficiency Test in Medical English.
6. As a transitional arrangement, only the following applicants may apply for exemption from taking Part II:-
  - (i) An applicant who had been granted exemption before 1 January 2011; or
  - (ii) An applicant who -
    - (a) has commenced undergraduate medical training for, or has been awarded, an undergraduate medical qualification in a medical school with English as the principal medium of instruction on or before 1 January 2011; and

- (b) submits an application for exemption before 1 January 2013 or within 2 years after graduation, whichever is the later.

**Part III: Clinical Examination**

7. The applicant-
- (i) must have substantial experience of practice in the relevant discipline(s) <sup>(Note 1)</sup>, which demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Licentiate Committee achievement of the professional standard in that discipline required for registration;
  - (ii) should have a minimum of 6 years post-registration experience in the relevant discipline(s);
  - (iii) should have a specialist qualification in the relevant discipline(s) comparable to a Fellowship of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine; and
  - (iv) should not have a history of matters which reflect adversely upon his professional competence in the relevant discipline(s), such as failure in the relevant part of the Licensing Examination or of other qualifying examination for registration in other jurisdictions.
8. Only applicants with substantial experience of practice in the relevant discipline(s) will be considered for exemption from clinical examination of no more than one discipline of the four disciplines examined in the Clinical Examination (namely, Surgery, Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Paediatrics).
9. Exemption will be granted only in respect of the part(s) which the applicant has proved to have substantial experience of practice in the relevant discipline.

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*Licentiate Committee*  
*The Medical Council of Hong Kong*  
*(revised in May 2015)*