



QCHP
المجلس القطري للتخصصات الصحية
Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners



Circular No. (6/2017)

From	Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners (QCHP)
To	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Physicians in the State of Qatar• All Healthcare Facilities' Focal Points in the State of Qatar
Subject	Update of QCHP's Approved Specialty Qualifications List for Physicians
Date	20 March, 2017

“Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners presents to you its compliments”.

In Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners' commitment to keep up with regional and international benchmarking in regulatory practice, and to unify the policies and procedures that maintain consistency and objectivity of the registration/ licensing process for all healthcare practitioners in the State of Qatar, based on the decision of the QCHP board in its 11th meeting held on 13/12/2016, an updated specialty qualifications list for physicians has been approved. The updated list was prepared after extensive studies to include a large number of the accredited certificates from many countries worldwide compared to the previous list while maintaining the quality of the qualifications and certificates.

Furthermore, QCHP is pleased to announce the implementation of additional scopes for physicians; as follows:-

- Resident
- Fellow
- General Practitioner
- General Practitioner (Certain Specialty)
- Specialist
- Associate consultant
- Consultant

In this regards, QCHP would like to pinpoint that the process - in accordance to the updated specialty qualifications list - will be in two phases, as the following:

- Phase One: According to the aforementioned scopes, QCHP will proceed with the under process evaluation requests alongside with the new requests as per the updated list. Phase one will be effective from the date of this circular.
- Phase Two: Physicians who accomplished their evaluation stage/ licensed prior to the approval of the updated list; they can submit “change scope of practice” applications after two months from this circular issue date.



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Therefore, QCHP urges all physicians who are under phase two category to continue as per their current scopes until the start of phase two. At a later time, QCHP will announce an orientation workshops and focus group discussion to address all the details of the updated list.

Attachment:

- Copy of new specialty qualifications list for physicians

For further information, kindly contact:

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**Thank you for your cooperation,
Registration Team/ Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners**



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QCHP's New Approved Specialty Qualifications List for Physicians in the State of Qatar



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No: 1 Policy Statements

- Listed below are the current approved physician's specialty qualifications in the state of Qatar.
- Qualifications /Certificates not included in the list or from countries other than the below mentioned will be evaluated as per the physician evaluation policy/guidelines.
- The Specialty Qualification Certificate should be issued by Medical Colleges/Universities

Definition:

In determining the eligibility of an applicant for registration with QCHP as Consultant, Specialist or GP/ special interest, the following definitions for each category to be considered:

Category 1: Holders of these certificates can:

- a. Get the **Specialist title** without work experience post qualification degree, unless number of years of experience required is specified.
- b. Get the **Consultant title** after completion of one year of work experience post qualification degree.

Category 2: Holders of these certificates can:

- a. Get the **Specialist title** after completion of one year of work experience post qualification degree, unless more years of experience is specified (If the applicant has less than one year of work experience post qualification degree, he/ she will be eligible for GP/special interest till the required experience is fulfilled then he/ she can change to specialist scope).
- b. Get **the Consultant title** after completion of four years of experience post qualification degree in addition to recommendation letter/s.

OR

For Candidates holding the certificates with asterisk **

- a. Get the **Specialist title** after three years of work experience from post qualification degree, unless more years of experience is specified.
- b. They are not eligible for a **Consultant title** unless a higher qualification is obtained.
- c. If the applicant has less than the required years of work experience post qualification degree he/ she will be eligible for GP/special interest, working under supervision of a licensed specialist in the same/or related branch till the required experience is fulfilled then he/ she can change to specialist scope.

Board Eligible Category (Only for HMC, PHCC and Sidra Medical & Research Center)

- 1- Board eligible physicians are defined as - "Physicians who:
 - Are Qatari nationals or permanent residents of Qatar;
 - Graduated from any of the medical school(s) approved by/ in the State of Qatar;



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- Completed a training program that is accredited by ACGMEI or equivalent in the State of Qatar or abroad;
- 2- Board Eligible physicians will be registered & licensed as “**Associate Consultant**” and will be granted a grace period not exceeding 5 years to complete the exam and be ‘Board Certified’.
- 3- Physicians, who get Board certification within the 5 years grace period, will be entitled to **Consultant** or as per the category of the certificate as well as QCHP guidelines.
- 4- Physicians, who didn’t get Board certification, within the grace period, will not be eligible for “**Associate Consultant**” and will be registered and licensed as GP with special interest as per the area of specialty.
- 5- Board Eligible physicians will be working under supervision of consultants.

Note:

- A waiver of one year from the experience required to Consultant scope will be granted for holders of recognized Fellowship program.
- Qatari Physicians and Physicians who completed a training program that is accredited by ACGMEI or equivalent in the State of Qatar and are Board Certified; are exempted from post qualification experience to obtain the "Specialist" scope.

Note: In case of any Governmental agreements with any country that are not included in the list, specialization degree/ certificates can be assessed based on the agreement.



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No 2: Update on the policy of Physicians' Approved Specialty Qualifications in the State of Qatar

Please refer to above and below attachments in reading the below table.

No.	Country (region) of conferring institution	Category 1	Category 2
1.	Arab countries		Arab board for medical specialties
2.	Algeria		Higher medical studies (diploma) issued by Algerian ministry of higher education.
3.	Argentina		Specialization Certificate issued by the Ministerio de Desarrollo Social y Salud
4.	Austria		Facharztdiplom (Diploma of medical specialist) issued by Österreichische Ärztekammer Or An ArztfürAllgemeinmedizin (Diploma of general medicine)
5.	Australia	Membership/ Fellowship of the Royal College. (All the approved specialist training programs by Australian Medical Council).	
6.	Bangladesh		Master of Surgery (MS), Doctor of Medicine (MD) or Fellow of the Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons + 2 years of work experience after the degree ** Note: fellowship should be by Exam and not by endorsement or election



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7.	Belgium		Bijzondereberoepstitel van geneesheerspecialist/Titre professionnel particulier de médecin spécialiste awarded by the Minister bevoegdvoor Volksgezondheid/Ministre de la Santé Publique (Formal evidence of having qualified as a medical specialist issued by the Minister of Public Health)
			Bijzondereberoepstitel van huisarts/Titre professionnel particulier de médecin généraliste (certificate of specific training for general medical practice)
8.	Bosnia and Herzegovina		Certificate of successful completion of specialist exam **
9.	Brazil		"Titulo De Especialista" Issued by Brazilian Medical Association and the Brazilian College of Surgeons And Registered with the Regional Councils or Federal Medical Council as a Specialists
10.	Bulgaria		Свидетелство за призната Специалност (Evidence of Recognized Specialty) awarded by the Университет (University) **
11.	Canada	Specialization Certificate of the Royal College of Physicians and surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)	
		Specialty Certificate from the College of Family Physician of Canada (CFPC)	
12.	China		Evidence of clinical training (minimum two (2) years) program accredited by the National Committee of Academic Degree leading to a Master's Degree**
13.	Cuba		First Degree of Specialization**



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14.	Czech Republic		Diploma Specializaci (specialist medical degree) awarded by the Czech Ministry of Health**
15.	Denmark		Bevis for tilladelsetil at betegne sig somspeciallaege (Certificate concerning the title of Specialist -Issued by Authority of health services (Sundhedsstyrelsen). Tilladelsetil at anvende betegnelsen alment praktiserende læge/ Speciallæge i almen medicin (certificate of specific training for general medical practice)
16.	Egypt		Doctor of Medicine (MD) Fellowship of Egyptian Board** Clinical Master Degree**
17.	Finland		Erikoislääkäarin tutkinto/ Special läkarexamen (Certificate of degree of specialist in medicine awarded by a Finnish University). Todistus yleislääketieteen erityiskoulutuksesta/ Bevis om särskild allmänläkarutbildning (Certificate of specific training for general medical practice)
18.	France		Certificat d'études spécialisées de médecine (CES) (Certificate of Specialized Studies in Medicine issued by French University with Full license issued by Conseil National de l'ordre des médecins) Diplôme d'études spécialisées/ Diplôme d'études spécialisées complémentaires qualifiant de médecine (DESC - diploma of complementary specialized studies) issued by French University Diplôme Interuniversitaire de Spécialité (DIS) (Interuniversity Diploma of medical specialty)



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19.	Germany		Fachärztliche Anerkennung/ Urkunde (Certificate of medical specialist issued by State's Medical Council (The Landesärztekammer)
			A Zeugnis über die spezifische Ausbildung in der Allgemeinmedizin (Certificate of specialist training in general medicine) issued by The Landesärztekammer
20.	Greece		Τίτλος ΙατρικήςΕιδικότητας (Certificate of medical specialization -awarded by Greek region of medical specialization)
			Τίτλος ιατρικήςειδικότητας γενικής ιατρικής (certificate of specific training for general medical practice)
21.	Hong Kong		Specialist training from a recognized post-graduate training program in Hong Kong And Fellowship of Hong Kong Academy of Medicine (HKAM)
22.	Hungary		Háziorvostan Szakorvosi bizonyítvány issued by <i>Nemzeti Vizsgabizottság</i> (Hungarian specialist certificate awarded by National Board of Examination or National Qualification Board Before 28 August 2004 awarded by the Hungarian Ministry of Health) **
23.	India		MD or MS from recognized Medical school or DNB from National Board of Examination + 2 years of work experience after the degree. **
			DM/M.ch
24.	Iraq		Fellowship of Iraqi Board issued by the Iraqi Commission of Medical Specialties
25.	Iran		Iranian Board**



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26.	Ireland	Certificate of Specialist Doctor issued by the Medical Council of Ireland and Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Specialist training (CSCST). or Membership / Fellowship of the Royal Colleges and Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Specialist training (CSCST).	Membership/ Fellowship of the Royal Colleges before 1996
		A certificate of specific qualification in General medical practice issued by the Medical Council of Ireland and Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of training in General Practice(CSCST). or Membership/ Fellowship of the Royal College of General Practitioners and Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of training in General Practice (CSCST).	Intercollegiate Specialty examination from one of the four Surgical Royal Colleges**
			Fellowship of the Royal colleges after 1996**
27.	Italy		Diploma of specialized doctor granted by a rector of an Italian university (A Diploma di (medico) specialista, rilasciati dal rettore di una universita)
			An Attesto di formazione specifica in medicina generale (certificate of specific training for general medical practice) issued by the Ministry of Health.
28.	Japan		Clinical PhD Note: minimum two (2) years course duration.
29.	Jordan		Jordanian Board offered by the Jordanian Medical Council
30.	Korea		Certificate of specialization awarded by the Ministry of Health and Welfare showing the completion of the training program in addition to passing the required examination.
31.	Kuwait		Board Certification by the Kuwait Board under the Kuwait Institute for Medical Specialization/Ministry of Health



32.	Lebanon		<p>Certificate of completion of residency and exit specialization exam from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> American University of Beirut(AUB)** Saint Joseph University ** Lebanese University **
33.	Libya		Libyan Board of Medical Specialty
34.	Malaysia		Master Degree minimum 4 years course duration
35.	Morocco		Diplome de Specialite Medicale (Specialty Certificate issued by the National Physicians Authority)
36.	Nepal		MD or MS from recognized Medical school + 2 years of work experience after the degree. **
37.	Netherlands		<p>Bewijis van inschrijving in een Specialistenregister (Certificate of recognition And Registration/ certificate of entry in the Specialist Register)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Medisch Specialisten Registratie Commissie (MRSC) o Sociaal-Geneeskundigen Registratie Commissie o Huisarts en Verpleeghuisarts Registratie Commissie (HVMC) van de Koninklijke Nederlandsche Maatschappij tot Bevordering der Geneeskunst – Note that only certificates issued before 19 July 2007 are accepted from this awarding body o Registratie Commissie Geneeskundig Specialisten (RGS) <p>Certificaat van inschrijving in een specialistenregister van huisartsen awarded by any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Huisarts en Verpleeghuisarts Registratie Commissie (HVMC) o Registratie Commissie Geneeskundig Specialisten (RGS)
38.	New Zealand	Fellowship of the Royal College/Colleges	
39.	Norway		<p>Spesialistgodkjenning issued by the Den Norske Legeforening (Medical Association of Norway) or Norwegian Directorate of Health</p> <p>Bevis for kompetanse som allmennpraktiserende lege/Godkjenning som allmennpraktiserende lege (certificate of specific training for general medical practice) issued by Norwegian Registration Authority for Health Personnel (SAK)</p>
40.	Pakistan		Fellowship of College of Physicians and Surgeons in Pakistan (FCPS) + 2 years of work experience after the FCPS.



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41.	Philippines		Diplomate of the Philippine Board**
42.	Poland		(Specialist Diploma) Dyplom uzyskania tytułu specjalisty issued by the Centrum Egzaminów Medycznych** First Degree of Specialization**
43.	Portugal		Título de Especialista (professional award of specialist) issued by the Ordem dos Medicos Título de especialista em medicina geral e familiar (certificate of specific training for general medical practice) issued by Ministério da Saúde or Ordem dos Medicos
44.	Romania		Certificate de medic specialist issued by Ministerul Sănătății Publici (the Ministry of Public Health)** Certificat de medic specialist medicină de familie issued by Ministerul Sănătății Publici (the Ministry of Public Health)**
45.	Russia		Magistra PhD**
46.	Saudi Arabia		Saudi Specialty Certificate (Saudi Board) issued by Saudi commission for Health Specialties.
47.	Serbia		Specialty certificate issued by a Serbian university And Certificate of Specialist Accreditation from the Specialist Accreditation Board**
48.	Singapore		Exit Certificate from Joint Committee on Specialist Training (JCST) and Certificate of Specialist Accreditation from the Specialist Accreditation Board
49.	Slovakia		Diplom o špecializácii (Diploma of specialization) issued by Slovak universities**
50.	Slovenia		Potrđilo o opravljenem specialisticnem izpitu (Certificate of successful completion of the specialist exam) issued by Medical Chamber of Slovenia**



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51.	South Africa		Masters of Medicine (M. Med) Degree or Fellowship Certificate approved by the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA)
52.	Spain		Título de Especialista (professional qualification of a specialist) issued by the Spanish Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs or the Spanish Ministry of Education and Culture
			Título de Especialista en medicina familiar y comunitaria (specialist certificate in family and community medicine) issued by the Spanish Ministry of Health and Consumer Affairs or the Spanish Ministry of Education and Culture
53.	Sudan		Clinical MD Issued by the Council for Postgraduate Studies/ Sudan Medical Specialization Board
54.	Sweden		Bevis om specialistkompetens som läkare (certificate of the right to use the title of specialist) issued by the Socialstyrelsen (National Board of Health and Welfare of Sweden)
			Bevis om kompetens som allmänpraktiserande läkare (Europaläkare) (certificate of specific training for general practice) issued by the Socialstyrelsen (National Board of Health and Welfare of Sweden)
55.	Switzerland		Diplôme de médecin spécialiste/Diplom als Facharzt/ Diploma di medico specialista (specialist qualification) issued by the Swiss Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA)
56.	Syria		Higher Study Certificate issued by Ministry of Higher Education **
			Syrian specialization certificate issued by MOH**
			Syrian board**
			Specialist registration is not accepted as recognized specialty certificates
57.	Tunisia		Specialty Certificate issued by the Ministry of Higher Education and Ministry of Health

58.	Turkey		Uzmanlik Belgesi issued by Sağlık Bakanlığı (Certificate of Medical Specialty issued by Ministry of Health)
59.	Ukraine		PhD**
60.	United Kingdom	Membership/Fellowship from Royal Colleges + Certificate of Specialist Training (CCST) or equivalent.	Membership/Fellowship of the Royal Colleges before 1996
			Intercollegiate Specialty examination from one of the four Surgical Royal Colleges**
		Membership/Fellowship from Royal College of General Practitioners + Certificate of Completion of Training in General Practice (GP) awarded by PMETB and Registration with the GMC as a GP	Fellowship of the Royal Colleges after 1996 **
61.	United States of America	American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Certificates and Subspecialty Certificates	

No.3: General Remarks

- ❖ Dealing with other certificates should be in accordance with the “physician evaluation policy”.
- ❖ It is to be noted that the above table is not exclusive and the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners (QCHP) reserves the right to amend and update the requirements at different intervals without prior notice.
- ❖ The above table is used for regulation purpose and QCHP doesn’t interfere with the recruitment process or grading scale of the physicians.
- ❖ QCHP reserves the right to ask for recommendation letters and complete the assessment through the expert panels.
- ❖ QCHP reserves the right to conduct interviews as part of the evaluation process if required.
- ❖ QCHP has the right to ask for additional supporting documents whenever needed.



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- ❖ Holders of any post-graduate degree that isn't included in the above table must submit his/her transcript and program curriculum or equivalent subject for review according to QCHP's policies and procedures.
- ❖ In determining the eligibility of an applicant for registration in Specialty Scope, applicant shall comply with the following basic requirements:
 1. To have a minimum of six (6) years undergraduate degree (MBChB/MBBS/MBBCh /Northern American MD or equivalent)
 2. Successful completion of internship program (one year program) where it is applicable.
- ❖ QCHP reserves the right to consult an expert panel in the respective specialty whenever required.
- ❖ Physicians cannot be registered with double specialties unless they are related, but can get privileges for more than one specialty after assessment through a specialized committee.
- ❖ This policy cancels any previous policies in this regard.
- ❖ The applicant must be reasonably fluent in either Arabic or English or both.
- ❖ Please ensure to check the below mentioned website for any updates:
 - ✓ www.MOPH.gov.qa
 - ✓ www.qchp.org.qa

No. 4: Certificates That Will Not Be Professionally Classified

- Certificates of mostly academic nature and character, the curricula of which do not include patient care, clinical practice and practical training in the field of specialization.
- Health Certificates acquired through honorary training programs or as a visiting physician or a non-practicing associate or those which are obtained through correspondence or similar.
- Online Qualification Certificates.