

Programme Title:



Programme Specification

Awarding Body/Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Teaching Institution	Queen Mary University of London
Name of Final Award and Programme Title	MSc Reconstructive Microsurgery
Name of Interim Award(s)	
Duration of Study / Period of Registration	2 years, Distance Learning
QM Programme Code / UCAS Code(s)	A3WV
QAA Benchmark Group	Clinical Medicine
FHEQ Level of Award	Level 7
Programme Accredited by	Not applicable
Date Programme Specification Approved	21.01.2016
Responsible School / Institute	Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry

Schools which will also be involved in teaching part of the programme

Blizard Institute

Institution(s) other than Queen Mary that will provide some teaching for the programme

Not applicable

Programme Outline

Microsurgery is a rapidly developing area which is crucial in surgical specialties such as Plastics, Maxillofacial, Gynaecological and General Surgery. It has revolutionised procedures such as free tissue transfer used in reconstruction after cancers and trauma, transplant surgery and limb or tissue replantation.

- 1) The programme is designed specifically to provide a core curriculum for surgeons (for example Plastic, Maxillofacial and Transplant surgeons) who want to gain a more in depth knowledge base in the specialised and highly skilled area of microsurgery.
- 2) It aims to assist students in examining and appraising of basic clinical sciences relevant to microsurgery.
- 3) It aims to develop and enhance basic and advanced skills in microsurgery flap design planning and harvesting, safe vessel dissection and preparation, safe and skilled vessel anastomosis and crucially sound post-operative patient management.
- 4) Microsurgery is practiced at expert level in different areas around the world. This programme would provide a unique opportunity for surgeons based within the UK and internationally to undertake in-depth microsurgery learning and training in an area that is clinically crucial and requires highly skilled operators.

Aims of the Programme

- 1) The programme is designed specifically to provide a core curriculum for surgeons and trainees to develop an in-depth

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knowledge of microsurgery and its applications.
2) It aims to provide surgeons with a solid foundation in microsurgery and clinical management of the patient undergoing microsurgical procedures.
3) It will enable surgeons to illustrate their learned knowledge of anatomy and physiology relevant to microsurgery and operative decisions.
4) It aims to develop a students ability to critique microsurgery literature, synthesize balanced views and be able to justify choices and decisions in their practice.
5) It provides an optional opportunity to gain invaluable hands-on experience, via Microsurgery and Flap courses which will give crucial training and the ability to gain experience of techniques before using them in the clinical setting.
6) An optional opportunity for students to undertake a non-assessed international microsurgery fellowship, facilitated with a highly reputable microsurgery team. This includes areas such as Seoul (Korea), Okayama (Japan), Naples (Italy), Timisoara (Romania), St Andrews (Broomfield Hospital, UK). Students will have the option to participate in a fellowship at their local unit.

What Will You Be Expected to Achieve?

On successful completion of the programme, students will have gained in-depth critical knowledge and skills in microsurgery skills, flap observation and monitoring, management of complications and general patient management.

Academic Content:	
A 1	Applied patho-physiological sciences presented in all modules
A 2	Critical review of the principles of microsurgery with discussion of the history of microsurgery
A 3	Develop core knowledge of advanced anatomy and physiology applied to microsurgery
A 4	Critical appraisal of research methodology and ethical issues pertaining to reconstructive microsurgery
A 5	Formulate comprehensive patient assessment guidelines and develop approaches to management of reconstructive patients

Disciplinary Skills - able to:	
B 1	Analyse and apply the pathophysiological theory flap harvesting and survival to clinical microsurgical practice
B 2	Utilise sound scientific theory and knowledge to perform microsurgical techniques
B 3	Develop a framework for thorough patient assessment, appropriate flap design and harvesting
B 4	Devise critically appraised guidelines for flap assessment, monitoring and escalation of management when problems are identified
B 5	Develop a methodical regime for managing flap compromise or complications
B 6	Provide a comprehensive evaluation of microsurgical management options for trunk, limb, and head and neck reconstruction
B 7	Critically evaluate ongoing developments and trends in microsurgery and critically appraise relevant literature
B 8	Develop critical understanding of the importance of the multidisciplinary team, and integrate this knowledge into personal practice

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Attributes:	
C 1	Engagement and critical application of in-depth knowledge and skills in microsurgery management
C 2	Demonstrate clarity of thought and sound intellectual development
C 3	Demonstrate core understanding of knowledge and maintain a holistic and empathetic approach in the management of microsurgical reconstructive patients

How Will You Learn?

Learning methodologies will include:

- Structured Distance Learning (modules delivered via QMplus)
- Clinical scenario teaching via training at participating partner institutions. These clinical immersion placements will be non-assessed (optional) but delivered as part of the clinical case studies module.
- Microsurgical simulation skills workshops and flap-based simulation courses available for students to take at various global locations. These short courses will be non-assessed (optional) but delivered as part of the clinical case studies module.

All clinical teaching referred to in the programme will take place in the form of simulation skills workshops.

Each module will include online seminars with summative module assignments, which will be submitted on QMplus as well as formative self assessments.

How Will You Be Assessed?

The module pass mark is determined by QMUL Academic Regulations.

As assessment is a known driver for learning with assignments, for each module there will be:

- a weekly summative online MCQ assignment using QMplus
- one written assignment for each module (1500 words)
- formative self assessment MCQs and EMQs

The scores of summative assignments and written assignments will be cumulative (contribute to 60% of the final mark per module)

- Objective structured oral assessment (40% of the final mark per module). This is a core component and must be passed with 50% minimum. Condoned failure is not permitted for this element of the course.

How is the Programme Structured?

Please specify the full time and part time programme diets (if appropriate).

Specific topics in reconstructive microsurgery are covered in a total of eight modules via:

- online learning packages
- compulsory directed research papers and set textbooks
- written assignments and formative self assessments
- QMplus directed module online discussion forums (compulsory)
- multimedia learning materials (covering recordings of techniques and discussion)

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Academic Year of Study

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Principles of microsurgery (basic microsurgery course)	ICM7080	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Advanced physiology (advanced microsurgery course)	ICM7081	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 1
Anatomy applied to reconstructive microsurgery (perforator flap course in cadaveric models)	ICM7082	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2
Evolution of reconstructive microsurgery (perforator flap course in live animal models)	ICM7083	15	7	Compulsory	1	Semester 2

Academic Year of Study

Module Title	Module Code	Credits	Level	Module Selection Status	Academic Year of Study	Semester
Limb reconstruction (upper and lower limb)	ICM7084	15	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 1
Head and neck reconstruction	ICM7085	15	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 1
Trunk and genitalia reconstruction	ICM7086	15	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 2
Clinical case study	ICM7087	15	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 2
Dissertation reconstructive microsurgery	ICM7088	60	7	Compulsory	2	Semester 2 & 3

What Are the Entry Requirements?

Completion of Medical Degree (MBBS or MD) recognised by Queen Mary University of London

English requirements should be any of the following:

- 1) Grade B at A Level
- 2) IELTS: overall score of 7, with 6.5 in Writing and Speaking
- 3) TOEFL Internet-Based test: overall score of 100, with 24 in Writing and Speaking

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How Do We Listen and Act on Your Feedback?

The Staff Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) provides a formal means of communication and discussion between the Institute and its students. The committee consists of student representatives from each year in the Institute together with appropriate representation from staff within the Institute. It is designed to respond to the needs of students, as well as act as a forum for discussing programme and module developments. SSLC's meet regularly throughout the year.

Each Institute also operates a Learning & Teaching Committee which advises the Institute Director of Taught Programmes on all matters relating to the delivery of taught programmes at Institute-level, including monitoring the application of relevant QM policies and reviewing all proposals for module and programme approval and amendment before submission to Taught Programmes Board. Student views are incorporated in the committee's work in a number of ways, such as through student membership or consideration of student surveys.

All institutes operate an Annual Programme Review (APR) of their taught postgraduate provision. APR is a continuous process of reflection and action planning which is owned by those responsible for programme delivery; the main document of reference for this process is the Taught Programmes Action Plan (TPAP) which is the summary of the institute's work throughout the year to monitor academic standards and to improve the student experience. Students views are considered in this process through analysis of the NSS and module evaluations.

Academic Support

We currently have an academic Teaching Fellow and Academic Clinical Lecturers supporting the programme.

Each student will be allocated an academic supervisor, who will act as a key academic and pastoral contact for the duration of the programme. This supervisor will be expected to maintain regular communication with the student via email/QMplus.

Programme-specific Rules and Facts

The programme follows the QMUL Academic Regulations. There are no special regulations for this MSc Reconstructive Microsurgery.

Specific Support for Disabled Students

Queen Mary has a central Disability and Dyslexia Service (DDS) that offers support for all students with disabilities, specific learning difficulties and mental health issues. The DDS supports all Queen Mary students: full-time, part-time, undergraduate, postgraduate, UK and international at all campuses and sites.

Students can access advice, guidance and support in the following areas:

- finding out if you have a specific learning difficulty like dyslexia
- applying for funding through the Disabled Students Allowance (DSA)
- arranging DSA assessments of need
- special arrangements in examinations
- accessing loaned equipment (e.g. digital recorders)
- specialist one-to-one "study skills" tuition
- ensuring access to course materials in alternative formats (e.g. Braille)
- providing education support workers (e.g. note-takers, readers, library assistants)

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- mentoring support for students with mental health issues and conditions on the autistic spectrum

Links With Employers, Placement Opportunities and Transferable Skills

Programme Specification Approval

Person completing Programme Specification

Miss Catherine Mclean

Person responsible for management of programme

Simon Myers

**Date Programme Specification produced/amended
by School Learning and Teaching Committee**

21.01.2016

**Date Programme Specification approved by
Taught Programmes Board**

21.01.2016