

Educating future leaders in ophthalmology online

The David E I Pyott Master of Surgery in Clinical Ophthalmology Scholarship, The University of Edinburgh

2017 Call for Applications – Scholarship Closing Date July 28, 2017



Left to Right: Professor Baljean Dhillon, Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology and Programme Director of the ChM (Master of Surgery) in Clinical Ophthalmology, University of Edinburgh and Honorary Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion, Edinburgh; Dr David Pyott, CBE; Dr J F (Barry) Cullen, Honorary Fellow and Senior Tutor, University of Edinburgh. Taken during Dr Pyott's recent visit to the University of Edinburgh and NHS Lothian's Princess Alexandra Eye Pavilion, May 2017.

[The David E I Pyott Master of Surgery in Clinical Ophthalmology Scholarship](#) supports specialist surgical and medical training for those from developing countries pursuing careers in ophthalmology.

Thanks to Dr David Pyott's, CBE, generous philanthropic donation of £250,000 in 2016 through his Foundation to his Scottish *alma mater*, The University of Edinburgh, six scholarship awards will be available in 2017 to eligible doctors commencing their studies on

on [The University of Edinburgh's unique online Master of Surgery \(ChM\) in Clinical Ophthalmology](#).

Doctors from sub-Saharan Africa, South East Asia and South America are eligible for these scholarship awards which cover all tuition fees for this two-year, part-time online Master's programme as well as broadband internet access and a laptop. The awards are administered by The University of Edinburgh and applications close on **July 28 2017**.

The ChM in Clinical Ophthalmology is aimed at the future leaders in ophthalmology who are learning to develop secondary and tertiary hospital eye service provision, who require subspecialty training and who would benefit from close mentoring in research methodology to deliver a piece of clinical research which is relevant to their local and national communities.

The ChM, which is delivered entirely online, has been designed to support, supplement and advance clinical learning, develop clinical research skills and provide a platform from which ophthalmologists in training are mentored whilst they are still living and working in their own countries and ophthalmology units. All they need is access to a computer and an internet connection to study from anywhere in the world and a minimum of 10-15 hours per week to commit to their studies. The ChM's online distance learners have full access to The University of Edinburgh's considerable online library and resources, including e-journals.

The general and subspeciality content follows the Fellowship in Ophthalmology curricula of The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) and The Royal College of Ophthalmologists (RCOphth) in the UK and Ireland and the learning objectives are mapped to competencies required of UK trainees sitting exit examinations for the Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training. The format of the ChM course delivery incorporates a multimedia mix of learning content and activities including asynchronous discussion boards with consultant ophthalmologist e-tutors, video lectures, virtual clinics and e-portfolio reflective diaries.

The ChM's international teaching Faculty has the experience and expertise to deliver clinically-relevant content across the range of medical and surgical ophthalmology to a global studentship. The Faculty are mindful of the varied culture, climate and geographic contexts in which students practise ophthalmology and the limitations in resources available in less affluent settings. This has shaped the way in which didactic and discursive topics are prioritised and practised within the ChM's virtual learning environment and is one of the unique features of the course.

The ChM offers a novel and effective vehicle for improving the education of a new generation of ophthalmologists learning in a global community of mentors and peers. This benefits both the profession by encouraging enquiry, reflecting on practice and broadening clinical expertise, and ultimately their patients whose specialist care will be enhanced through this distance learning programme.

[Watch Professor Baljean Dhillon's introductory video to the online ChM \(Master of Surgery\) in Clinical Ophthalmology, The University of Edinburgh.](#)

[Profile of Professor Baljean Dhillon, *BMedSci\(Hons\), BMBS, FRCS\(Ed\), FRCPS\(Glasg\), FRCOphth, FRCPE, Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology and Programme Director for the ChM \(Master of Surgery\) in Clinical Ophthalmology, The University of Edinburgh.*](#)

SHORT VERSION based on Joanna Storrar's old 2016 text for David:

Educating a new generation of ophthalmologists online - scholarships available

The University of Edinburgh launched an online, two-year, part-time [ChM \(Master of Surgery\) in Clinical Ophthalmology](#) in 2015, aimed at advanced ophthalmology trainees and independently practising ophthalmologists. The flexibility of this programme is perfect for doctors and surgeons wishing to improve their skills but who are unable to commit to a residential course. All they need is access to a computer and an internet connection to study from anywhere in the world and 10-15 hours per week to commit to their studies.

Graduates of this course will build health-care capacity in often remote and under-resourced areas of the world. Six generous scholarships are available in 2017 to cover tuition fees, internet access and a laptop. These have been contributed by [The David E I Pyott Master of Surgery in Clinical Ophthalmology Scholarship](#) at The University of Edinburgh.

These scholarships are available for candidates from specified countries, based on need, who have been offered a place on the ChM course to commence their studies in September 2017.

Credentials

This postgraduate degree has been designed by the University of Edinburgh in partnership with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) and follows the curricula of the Ophthalmology Fellowship examinations of the RCSEd and the Royal College of Ophthalmologists (RCOphth) of the UK and Ireland.

For further course information and an introductory video to the ChM by Professor Baljean Dhillon, Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at The University of Edinburgh, please visit their Ophthalmology Masters website at <http://www.ed.ac.uk/ophthalmology/masters>

For details of The David E I Pyott Master of Surgery in Clinical Ophthalmology Scholarship, please visit the University of Edinburgh's website at <http://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate/e-learning/david-pyott>

Closing date for scholarship applications is July 28 2017.

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