

## Testimonial for the MSc in Medical Education



#### **Dr Patrick McGown**

ST5 in endocrinology and diabetes at Hammersmith Hospital, London

#### How do you feel about the overall experience of completing the course?

I found the MSc in Medical Education to be extremely useful. I completed the degree on a part-time basis over 3 years alongside my usual work; the modular structure was very simple to fit in around clinical and on call commitments. There was a variety of topics to build knowledge upon and I felt that the course really gave me a better insight into medical education and has assisted my everyday work in hospitals.

### What did you find most valuable?

Personally, completing research on the evidence behind clinical assessments (eg DOPS) that we carry out in everyday practice was very valuable, it has given me a new-found respect for the assessments! Additionally, in the PG certificate year, the opportunity to deliver small group / online teaching with assessment and feedback was very useful as this forms a large part of my everyday work.

### Where have you put your theory into practice?

As well as small group and lecture-based teaching at work, I have also found that literature review skills have been important in medical education research I have done. I spent a year as a curriculum and assessment fellow at a medical school while I was completing the PG diploma and the course was extremely helpful in this regard.

# How did you feel about the interaction with students on the course?

I was surprised at how good the interaction was, to be honest! There was a diverse pool of students, from foundation doctors to consultants, and everyone got on very well. The varying degrees of experience and contrasting specialty backgrounds meant that we were all learning from each other and what works well in different environments.

#### Would you recommend this course to colleagues? If so, why?

I definitely would. The PG certificate year had an excellent grounding in theory and I found the PG diploma year very useful in my teaching fellow role, particularly the module on curriculum development. The thesis year was an excellent opportunity to perform research with one-to-one guidance from a tutor – I enjoyed it immensely.

### How has this helped you develop in your career?

This has given me an excellent insight into training assessment tools, as well as skills to use in both small and large group teaching settings. Additionally, the wealth of literature appraisal and essay writing involved has been useful from the perspective of reading clinical research, as well as educational. I would hope that this degree will facilitate the pursuit of my long-term career goals within medical education.