2016 Curriculum for the Master of Headache Disorders programme at the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen

This curriculum comes into force on 1 September 2018 and shall apply in relation to students admitted on or after that date.

The curriculum was approved by the Dean on 17 April 2018.

This subject-specific curriculum, the course descriptions in the overall University of Copenhagen course database and the general curriculum provisions together comprise the curriculum for the Master of Headache Disorders.

Part 1 Objectives and qualification profile

§ 1 Objectives
The objective of the Master of Headache Disorders (Master i hovedpinesygdomme) is to educate specialists to diagnose, treat as well as perform research within headache disorders. The masters will have highly specialized knowledge of Headache Epidemiology; Public Health; Burden of Headache; Clinical Headache Care; Clinical Care of Facial Pain; Multidisciplinary Headache Care; Basic Headache Mechanisms; Clinical Headache Research; Headache Genetics, and educational aspects within Headache and Facial Pain.

1.2. Successful completion of the programme gives the right to use the title Master of Headache Disorders (master i hovedpinesygdomme).

1.3. The degree is worth 60 ECTS credits.

1.4. The programme belongs under the Study Board for the Professional Master's Degree Programmes at the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences.

1.5. The master’s programme is affiliated with the Core of Danish Medical Examiners (Censorkorpset for Lægeuddannelsen).

§ 2 Admission requirements
It is a condition for admission that the applicant

- holds a relevant degree. Qualifying degrees are: Master’s degree in pharmacy, master’s degree in medicine, master’s degree in psychology, master’s degree in public health, professional bachelor’s degree in nursing, professional bachelor’s degree in physiotherapy or equivalent.
- can document knowledge of Statistics equivalent to high-school Mathematics level A.
- has at least two years of relevant work experience after having completed the qualifying course of study. Relevant work experience is clinical competences and work experience from pain medicine and/or within the headache area.
- meets the language requirements as stipulated in the general curriculum provisions for all master programmes.

2.2 The admissions committee may on the basis of an individual assessment admit applicants who do not hold one of the above-mentioned degrees if the applicant is deemed by the admissions committee to possess comparable educational qualifications.

2.3 The courses offered under the Master programme can be taken as single courses. The same admission requirements apply to students taking single courses. If the number of applicants for a given module exceeds the number of seats, priority will be accorded to students enrolled in the full Master programme.

§ 3 Qualification profile
The Master of Headache Disorders programme equips graduates with the following knowledge, skills and competences:
Knowledge:
A graduate from the Master of Headache Disorders will have obtained knowledge on how to:
- Diagnose primary and secondary headache phenotypes as well as cranial neuropathies and other facial pains, including knowledge about differential diagnosis and co-morbid diseases
- Obtain a detailed understanding of the international classification of headache disorders and be able to use this in clinical practice
- Identify and analyse possible inconsistencies and thereby help to improve and validate the international classification of headache disorders
- Master the latest knowledge on pain physiology and understand the link between human and animal headache models (translational research)
- Master the latest knowledge on pharmacological development and intervention in headache disorders on an international scientific level
- Identify complex scientific issues and knowledge on current research theories and methods
- Critically analyse scientific controversies and scientific literature
- Obtain in depth understanding of the development of new treatment modalities

Skills:
A graduate from the Master of Headache Disorders is able to:
- Plan, execute, analyse and critically evaluate own and others clinical or experimental research projects.
- Use botulinum toxin treatment, apply GON blockade, test pericranial muscle tenderness and other quantitative sensory testing in accordance with current clinical standards
- Investigate and treat headache patients using evidence based treatment principles
- Use the IHCD-classification, apply and analyse a headache diary in a clinical setting as well as develop and improve current clinical tools using evidence based principles
- Critically evaluate test-results and clinical characteristics and together with colleagues make proper working hypotheses
- Communicate knowledge to patients and their relatives and other clinical personnel

Competences:
A graduate from the Master of Headache Disorders is able to:
- Collaborate in a multidisciplinary working environment and to work individually and in teams as well as being able to suggest evidence based solutions in headache treatment.
- Collaborate in a clinical setting focusing on the best patient care.
- Take responsibility for a continued development and training of colleagues and other clinical personnel
- Independently organize and develop own learning-processes in headache treatment
- Diagnose and treat both simple and complex headache conditions
- Continually search and use the latest scientific news and literature
- Implement research and developmental projects under the current conditions in a given health care system
- Administer and allocate the available resources in headache treatment as fair as possible
- Strive to promote all aspects of headache research in epidemiological, social and health care sectors

Part 2 Modules, instruction, maximum duration of study

§ 4 Modules, instruction
The modular structure of the programme is designed to provide students with overall academic
qualifications within a prescribed timeframe, which is defined in terms of ECTS points. All courses in the programme are subject to a modular structure.

**Part 3 Study and exam activities**

§ 5
The Master programme in Headache Disorders comprises the following courses and exams:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compulsory courses</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Epidemiology and Diagnosis of Headache and Facial Pain</td>
<td>7.5 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanisms and Comorbidities of Headache and Facial Pain</td>
<td>7.5 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigations and Management of Headache and Facial Pain</td>
<td>7.5 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization of Headache Care and Clinical Practice</td>
<td>7.5 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Course at a Specialized Headache Centre</td>
<td>10 ECTS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No elective courses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master’s project</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master’s thesis</td>
<td>20 ECTS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

§ 6
The programme consists of 60 ECTS credits from compulsory study and exam activity of which the master’s thesis is worth 20 ECTS credits. The programme does not include elective study and exam activity.

6.1 The programme’s constituent subject elements are:
- All compulsory study and examination activities
- The Master’s thesis

§ 7
The programme includes the following courses and exams:

Course title: *Epidemiology and Diagnosis of Headache and Facial Pain*
STADS code: SHDM16001U  
ECTS: 0

Examination: *Exam in Epidemiology and Diagnosis of Headache and Facial Pain*
STADS code: SHDM16001E  
ECTS: 7.5

Course title: *Mechanisms and Comorbidities of Headache and Facial Pain*
STADS code: SHDM16002U  
ECTS: 0

Examination: *Exam in Mechanisms and Comorbidities of Headache and Facial Pain*
STADS code: SHDM16002E  
ECTS: 7.5

Course title: *Investigations and Management of Headache and Facial Pain*
STADS code: SHDM16003U  
ECTS: 0

Examination: *Exam in Investigations and Management of Headache and Facial Pain*
STADS code: SHDM16003E  
ECTS: 7.5
Course title: **Organization of Headache Care and Clinical Practice**
STADS code: SHDM16004U
ECTS: 0

Examination: **Exam in Organization of Headache Care and Clinical Practice**
STADS code: SHDM16004E
ECTS: 7.5

Course title: **Clinical Course at a Specialized Headache Centre**
STADS code: SHDM16005U
ECTS: 0

Examination: **Exam in Clinical Course at a Specialized Headache Centre**
STADS code: SHDM16005E
ECTS: 10

Course title: **Master’s Thesis**
STADS code: SHDM16006U
ECTS: 0

Examination: **Exam in Master’s Thesis**
STADS code: SHDM16006E
ECTS: 20

§ 8 Group exams
There are no group exams on the master programme.

§ 9 Instruction and exam languages
English is the language of instruction for and examination at the Master of Headache Disorders.

§ 10 Elective elements
There are no electives on the master programme.

§ 11 Master’s thesis
Students must complete a master’s thesis. The thesis must demonstrate the student’s ability to formulate, analyse and process issues within a relevant, limited scientific subject in a qualified way.

11.2. The thesis must be completed in accordance with the approved contract and comprise the equivalent of max. 40 A4 pages in 12 point Times Roman. The thesis must be furnished with an abstract (in English) of no more than one A4 page. The abstract must summarize the research question, the methods used, important findings, a discussion if relevant, and a conclusion. The abstract will be included in the overall assessment of the master’s thesis.

11.4. Assessment will be based on the scientific content of the thesis as well as the student’s spelling and writing skills. The scientific content will carry most weight.

11.5. The master’s thesis is worth 20 ECTS credits.

Part 5 Concluding remarks

§ 12 Transitional arrangements
No transitional arrangements are established.

§ 13 Exemptions from these provisions
In exceptional circumstances, the study board may grant exemptions from any curriculum
provisions within the sole remit of the study board.

§ 14 Date of commencement
This curriculum comes into force on 1st September 2018.