Leicester Medical School

MBChB

Compulsory Suspension of Study

September 2016
The Medical School can, in circumstances set out below, suspend a student’s studies and may recommend to the University Academic Registrar that the student has no or limited access to University facilities or premises pending investigation under Fitness to Practise procedures. Such suspension is justified to protect the interests of patients, the student concerned, other students or members of staff of the University and is guided by Senate regulation eleven, part Four.

**Senate Regulation 11**

Such suspension should only occur under specific circumstances and should be an unusual event. The incident(s) may include (but will not be limited to) one of the following:

- A student has been directly implicated in an incident with a patient that either led or may have led to significant harm to that patient
- A student has been convicted of a crime or is being investigated in relation to a crime that brings his/her fitness to practise into question
- A student has been directly implicated in an incident with a patient, colleague or member of staff that leads to major concerns about the student’s professional behaviour
- A student’s health and/or behaviour is a cause for concern in terms of its impact in the care of patients or relationships with colleagues and/or members of staff.
- The Board of Examiners has asked the Director of Undergraduate Medical Education to investigate whether a student should suspend their studies in order to prepare optimally for a resit year.

The decision to suspend the studies of a medical student can only be taken by the Head of the Medical School or the Director of Undergraduate Medical Education. Unless the matter is deemed to be of immediate serious concern by the Medical School, no student shall be suspended without having been given the opportunity to make representations in support of his or her case. The representations may be made in person or in writing to Director of Undergraduate Medical Education. In cases that are deemed to be of immediate serious concern, a student may be suspended with immediate effect. In such circumstances, an opportunity will be given to the student to make representations as soon as is reasonably practicable thereafter.

When it is decided that a student should be suspended, the student should be informed orally by the Head of the Medical School or the Director of Undergraduate Medical Education, where possible in the presence of a witness. The student is entitled to be accompanied at the meeting by a current member of the University or by a representative from the MDU or MPS. The decision should be confirmed in writing within 48 hours. The letter should reiterate the reasons for the suspension and a statement of the processes that will follow the suspension. If it is not possible, for good reason, for the student to attend a meeting at which they are informed orally of the decision to suspend their studies, the decision should be conveyed in writing as soon as practicable after it has been taken.

The Head of the College shall be informed of any suspension and will ask a senior member of the Fitness to Practise Committee, who has not been involved in the referral of the case to the Fitness to Practise Committee to review the suspension every 20 working days. The person undertaking the review of the suspension cannot subsequently be used as a member of the Fitness to Practise Panel at which the case is considered.