Clarification is required regarding the credits for the 4 year programme, specifically for the two years where no credits are accrued as well as the choice of non-work-based WIL for the programme.

UCT response:

As per the DHET definition, we have drawn a distinction between practical learning that is integrally linked to the formal tuition process as opposed to workplace based learning that takes place after the formal instruction (WIL as defined by DHET). In this qualification, all practical/experiential learning takes place within the duration of the qualification. The HEQSF definition of WIL covers both forms. The students are registrars who are employed by the province on the UCT teaching platform and they therefore enter into an employment contract that spells out their clinical duties. Their academic and clinical training are integrated into the clinical duties since they work under supervision of registered specialists. Training is supervised on site on the UCT platform by our own UCT or joint staff. It is the institution's responsibility to place students. Students are not accepted unless they can be formally accommodated in the teaching hospital. The students are held against an HPCSA training number which has been allocated by the HPCSA to the University of Cape Town, where the training takes place. The clinical competence of students is assessed daily on clinical ward rounds. Formal appraisals are held to discuss progress and areas of concern. A logbook is kept of all procedures performed and competency is verified by training supervisor or the Head of the unit.

Regarding the two years for which no credits are accrued, as with all Master of Medicine qualifications offered by the Institution, candidates follow the relevant CMSA curriculum and undergo training in a training unit accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa. The teaching and learning strategy is to deliver the curriculum through reading, one on one supervision of clinical cases, and journal club activities for the specialty for a minimum of four years. While the training extends over 4 years only 2 subsidy units are awarded and therefore credits accrue for 2 of the 4 years. Part 1 and part of the programme commences in year 1. Candidates may not be permitted to undergo the examination for Part 2 unless they have successfully completed Part 1 and such approved experience as may be prescribed for the speciality concerned, which continues for the duration of the qualification.