The programme is a professional Master’s degree. It is coherently planned and aligned with the University's mission and vision. Outcomes are clearly stated and assessment is aligned with the outcomes. A variety of assessment techniques are employed, which are appropriate for the type of programme. Although the programme is delivered as a contact programme, only 10% of notional hours are contributed by contact time. Furthermore the programme design includes 900 notional hours of WIL, comprising 50% of the total learning time, which is appropriate for a professional Master’s degree. The institution is requested to comment on the fact that work-placed based learning is deemed to carry no credits while the admission requirements include that applicants should be full-time employed staff.

UCT response:

The allocation of 10% contact time is to specify contact time students spent in teaching, presentations at meetings and journal clubs. Students also spend time in contact session, as part of their experiential learning. 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. Senior registrars 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 is integrated into the clinical duties since they work under supervision of registered specialists/subspecialists. Training is supervised on site on the UCT platform by our own UCT or joint staff. The employment contract includes a workplan, with related KPAs and indicators. 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 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 3 monthly 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 and is a standard CMSA requirement.