



LEECH PRACTICE CERTIFICATION TRAINING PROGRAM

STANDARDS FOR LEECH PRACTICE CERTIFICATION TRAINING PROGRAM

1. NAME OF TRAINING

Leech Practice Certificated Training Program

2. AIM OF TRAINING

The purpose of this training program is to qualify medical doctors and dentists from related fields that will practice leech to fulfill these practices in an effective and prolific way.

3. LEGAL BASIS FOR TRAINING

The following legislation is taken as a basis for the implementation of this training program.

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1. Decree Law No. 663
2. Regulation on Certification Training of the Ministry of Health published in the Official Gazette dated February 4, 2014 and numbered 28903.
3. Regulation on Traditional and Complementary Medicine Practices published in the Official Gazette dated October 27, 2014 and numbered 29158.

4. DEFINITIONS

Hirudotherapy: Steril sülük kullanılarak yapılan uygulamadır. It is the practice in which sterile leech is utilized.

Practice Center: It is the center that is founded within training and research hospitals, faculty of medicine or faculty of dentistry health practices and re-

search center and can provide training under the responsibility of medical doctors and dentists with certification in related field if the center is authorized by Ministry.

Distant Training: It is the training system in which trainers and trainees are located in different time and place and the transmission of training contents and interaction are realized by utilizing ICT.

Asynchronous Training: These are asynchronous training and education activities, which are realized in different time and places.

Synchronous Training: These are training and education activities which occur synchronously.

5. PROCEDURES AND PRINCIPLES TO IMPLEMENT THIS TRAINING PROGRAM

The training program shall be implemented based on the procedures and principles listed below.

1. The training program shall be implemented based on the procedures and principles listed below.
2. The training program shall be carried out both in theory and in practice. Theoretical training can be provided as face to face or distance learning (Maximum 80%)
3. It shall be ensured, in distance learning, that the participants have synchronous and asynchronous access to interactive practices on-line through the infrastructure provided by the server.

4. Participants need to undertake at least 10 (ten) leech practices during the training.
5. The contents of the courses shall be designated in the beginning of the training program; the trainees shall be given references or provided with lecture notes.
6. Theoretical and practical courses shall last for 8 (eight) hours a day at most. The period of a course shall be 45 (forty-five) minutes.
7. A maximum of 50 (fifty) participants can be accepted for the distance learning and at most 25 (twenty-five) participants for face to face training in one training period/term except for 2 (two) participant who will be assigned by the Ministry.
8. The participant to be assigned by the Ministry will be a Physician or a Dentist who does not have any Public Service Liability and whose training in this program is of importance for his/her services in the institution she/he works. This participant will not pay any training fee. The participants cannot be made work in any other field/unit/center or in any other job position during the training program.
9. Continuous attendance is essential for the training, and the practical training requires compulsory attendance. The participants who cannot attend 10% of the practical training at most due to a legal excuse shall not be allowed to take the certification exam unless they complete the hours they miss. A maximum of 10% absence can be accepted for the theoretical training due to a legal excuse.
10. The following teaching and learning strategies, methods and techniques shall be applied in the training program:
 - Verbal lecture method
 - Small group discussion
 - Demonstrative teaching
 - Attendant scientific activity
 - Question and answer method
 - Video-based teaching method
 - Clinical practice (Case review activities)
11. Practical training is performed in application centers or units on an individual basis or as groups, Ozon practices consist of monitoring, performance under observation and self-reliant performance phases.

6. PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS

Physicians and/or dentists, for practicing in their own field, can participate into this certificated training program.

7. TRAINING CURRICULUM

7.1. Learning Objectives and Subjects in Training Courses

Subjects within the training program, training targets and duration allocated for every subject are displayed below-mentioned Table 1.

Table 1: Subjects within Leech Practice Certificated Training Curriculum for Physicians and Duration for every subject

SUBJECTS	TRAINING TARGETS Participants successfully completing this training:	Duration (Hours)
The importance and historical background of leech practice	Discuss the importance of leech practice. Express historical background of leech practice.	2
Biology, metabolism and physiology of leech	Explain the life cycle of leeches. Express the metabolism of leeches. Explain the characteristics of leech saliva.	2
Leech servicing: Leech selection Disinfection Storage Delivery	Express the important aspects of leech servicing	2
Principles of leech practice	Express basic noteworthy principles of leech practice	2
Patient consent, ethics and legal obligations	Explain the regulation and ethics concerning leech practice	1
Leech practice methods	Explain leech practice methods.	2
Case presentations	Discuss the cases related to leech practice.	6
Applicable Fields for Leech Practice		
Painful disorders	Explain the correct leech practice in painful cases	2
Musculoskeletal disorders	Explain the proper leech practice for musculoskeletal disorders	2
Earache and tinnitus	Explain the proper leech practice for ear disorders	2
Post flap surgery venous failures, post replantation and revascularization venous failures	Explain the proper leech practice for venous failures concerning related cases	2
Cardiovascular disorders	Explain the proper leech practice for cardiovascular disorders	2
Neurological system disorders	Explain the proper leech practice for neurological system disorders	2
Some eye diseases (peri-orbital oedema, increase in intraocular pressure, problems related to optic nerve etc.)	Explain the proper leech practice for some eye diseases	2
Leech practice in dentistry	Explain the proper leech practice in dentistry	2
Possible side effects	Explain the possible side effects related to practice	2
TOTAL		35

10. In the practice exam;
 - a. Practice planning
 - b. Leech practice
 - c. Important issues before and after practice will be evaluated.
11. Those who fail to score this minimum point in the practice exam shall be allowed to take the exam 2 (two) more times at maximum; those who cannot pass the exam are supposed to apply the leech practice certification training program again.
12. The objections of participants who object to the results of their theoretical and practice exams conducted at the end of the leech practice certification training program shall be evaluated and concluded by the certification training providers in 5 (five) days at the latest.
13. For certification, the success point of the trainee shall be determined by averaging the points obtained in the theoretical and practice exams.
14. Participants who pass the theoretical and practice exams shall be awarded their certificates.
15. The certificate shall be registered by the Ministry of Health.

8. PROGRAM OFFICER AND HER/HIS QUALIFICATIONS

Physicians, dentists and academicians in related fields are the program officers of leech practice certification training program.

9. TRAINERS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS

People having at least one of the following requirements shall be assigned as trainer:

1. Physicians and Dentists who hold Leech Practice Certification and who have actively worked in the relevant practice field for minimum 3 (three) years,
2. Specialists / Dental Specialists who hold Leech Practice Certification
3. Physicians and Dentists who hold Leech Practice Certification and who have minimum two national/ international scientific publications on leech
4. For the subjects apart from leech practice, leading experts and faculty members.
5. Foreign nationals who can certify that they have leech practice training on an international scale and actively work in related field and deemed appropriate by the commission established by related department.

NOTE: Practice centers are obliged to report the names and qualifications of trainers to Ministry of Health

10. PROPERTIES OF THE TRAINING PLACE

Leech practice certified training program can be organized by the institutions with “practice center”.

For Distance Learning;

1. have Learning Management System (LMS) software compliant with international learning content standards (Scorm, AICC, etc.),
2. have a Learning Management System (LMS) Management panel,
3. have a server and infrastructure architecture in parallel with the capacity of the trainees,
4. ensure that video conferencing

software and infrastructures are integrated into the system so as to provide synchronous training, are required.

The place for theoretical and practical training is required to:

1. have a server and infrastructure architecture in parallel with the capacity of the trainees,
2. have adequate number of chairs and desks for participants,
3. be a traditional and complementary medicine practice center which the Ministry allows to open,
4. have computer and audiovisual devices which will allow for carrying out the training using appropriate technology; practice models; a blackboard; a printer, xerox machine and paper support systems ensuring that participants are provided with training objectives, subjects and contents/presentations; preferably an internet access enabling that online and visual animations/training materials are used.

11. VALIDITY PERIOD OF THE CERTIFICATE

The validity period of the certificate is 7 (seven) years.

12. CERTIFICATE RENEWAL CRITERIA

1. At the end of the validity period of the certificates, among the certificate-holders;
 - a. Those who document that they attended national/international trainings or scientific meetings on leech at least 1 (one) time within the validity period of the certificate after receiv-

ing that certificate or those who published an article on leech in 1 (one) national/international scientific journals or those who document that they worked actively on this field for 6 (six) months are awarded a certificate extension. The certificate-holders will submit their documentation related to these criteria during the recertification application to the certification training providers that awarded the certificate to them.

- b. Those who do not fulfil any criteria in paragraph a need to apply for renewal exam.
2. The renewal exam shall be conducted as a theoretical exam consisting of multiple-choice questions prepared in line with the recent developments in the field and the subjects in the leech certification training program by the providers of leech practice certification training program under the coordination of the relevant unit of the Ministry.
3. The participants who score 70 (seventy) or more points in the renewal exam shall be deemed successful and the duration of their certificates shall be extended for another 5 (five) years.
4. The certificates of the certificate-holders are valid until the recertification exam process is completed.
5. The certificates of those who fail to attend the certification renewal exam twice in a row shall be deemed invalid, except in cases of legally acceptable excuses. Following the end of the legally acceptable excuse, they are tested as soon as

possible.

6. In cases when the training activities of the entity with the authorization to provide certification training program are stopped or its certification training provision authorization documents are cancelled for any reason or in cases of shut-down and transfer, the recertification exams shall be conducted by the relevant unit of the Ministry.
7. The objections of the certificate-holders, who failed in the certification renewal exam, to the renewal exam results shall be evaluated and concluded in maximum 5 (five) days by the certification renewal exam committee.
8. Leech practice certificates gained before the issue date of these standards are indefinite, therefore they shall not be renewed but if those indefinite certificates are unregistered, they must be registered within 2 (two) years pursuant to the issue date of these standards. Otherwise, these certificates shall be deemed as invalid.

13. EQUIVALENCE APPLICATION AND PROCEDURES AND PRINCIPLES OF EQUIVALENCE PROCESSES

Equivalence shall be requested by using the equivalence application form prepared by the Ministry in line with the provisions of the Regulation on Certification Training of the Ministry of Health.

It is mandatory to submit all the documents specified in this form.

Each section specified in this form shall be filled in detail, the original copies of the below-listed documents approved

by the institution/organization which provides the training and the translation of the documents into Turkish by a certified translator if the training is received abroad shall be submitted as attachment to the form.

Documents to be attached to the Application Form:

1. Notarized copy of the certificate.
2. Notarized copy of the Faculty of Medicine/Faculty of Dentistry diploma.
3. Notarized copy of postgraduate education certificate, if available.
4. Notarized copy of Turkish Identification Card/Foreign Identification Card and 2 (two) photographs.
5. All information and documentation related to the Training Curriculum specified in the 4th paragraph of the Application Form. (In Turkish and in the language of the training and the document)
6. Document proving that Physicians received at least 60 (sixty) hours of theoretical and practical training as well as the Training Curriculum.
7. The applicant will be requested to submit a document which is received from the official health authority of the country of training or the head of mission of Turkey and shows that the Institution/Organization/Private Law Legal Entity/Natural Person who/which provided the training and who/which is included in the 3rd paragraph of the Application Form is authorized to provide training.
8. The applicant will be requested to submit a document showing that s/he resided in the country in which s/he received training at least 15

(fifteen) days with his/her passport or other official documents and the formally-commissioned officials will be requested to provide documentation proving that they were off duty in the said period.

How to carry out the Equivalence Procedures

1. The application files of those who apply for certificate equivalence shall be examined in line with the Leech Practice Certified Training Program Standards by a leech practice-certified scientific committee.
2. The applicants whose files are deemed suitable and sufficient shall be tested with theoretical and practical exam.
3. Those who score 70 (seventy) points or more (out of 100) in the theoretical exam shall be deemed successful. Those who fail to score this minimum point in the theoretical exam shall be allowed to take the exam 2 (two) more times at maximum; those who cannot pass the exam are supposed to apply to the Leech Practice Certification Training Program again.
4. Those who cannot pass the theoretical exam shall not be allowed to take the practice exam.
5. The practice exam will be conducted on a patient and/or a model.
6. In the practice exam;
 - a. Practice planning
 - b. Practice planning
 - c. Important issues before and after practice will be evaluated.
7. Participants who score 70 (seventy) points or more (out of 100) in the practice exam shall be deemed

successful. Those who fail to score this minimum point in the practice exam shall be allowed to take the exam 2 (two) more times at maximum; those who cannot pass the exam are supposed to apply to the Leech Practice Certification Training Program again.

8. Certificate Equivalency Document shall be drawn up for applicants who pass the theoretical and practice exams.
9. Certificate Equivalency Document shall be registered by the Ministry of Health.

13. PROVISIONAL CLAUSE

Physicians and dentists who have any of these belowmentioned qualities before the issue date of this Standard:

1. Having 2 (two) nationally/internationally acknowledged and/or published scientific papers related to subject,
2. Having posgraduate thesis on related subject,
3. Having postgraduate thesis supervisory experience on related subject, On the condition that they apply to Ministry of Health within 6 (six) months pursuant to the issue date of this standard, the application shall be examined by the commission that shall be composed by related department in the Ministry and applicants deemed proper shall be awarded Ozon Practice Certification Equivalence without any examination for one time only.