2017 Distinction in the MB ChB programme

In response to student requests for information, from 2015 the MB ChB Assessment Sub-committee (MASC) has released the numbers of students who gained Distinction in their paper/degrees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>2017 n (%)</th>
<th>2016 n (%)</th>
<th>2015 n (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MICN201 Pass with Distinction</td>
<td>45 (15.3%)</td>
<td>34 (11.8%)</td>
<td>32 (10.8%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MICN301 Pass with Distinction</td>
<td>62 (21.6%)</td>
<td>48 (16.6%)</td>
<td>42 (14.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICN501 Pass with Distinction</td>
<td>54 (18.8%)</td>
<td>48 (17.5%)</td>
<td>46 (15.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICN601 Pass with Distinction</td>
<td>47 (18.0%)</td>
<td>46 (16.0%)</td>
<td>40 (16.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MB ChB (Distinction)</td>
<td>19 (7.3%)</td>
<td>12 (4.2%)</td>
<td>14 (5.7%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regulations for the awarding of Distinction in the MB ChB papers may be found in the Assessment Policy and Procedures document. A summary of the 2017 regulations is provided here as background:

**Award of Distinction in ELM**

Distinction will be awarded to those students achieving an excellent performance standard in the end-of-year assessments. This will normally require a mean score of 4.20 or greater, with a minimum score of 3.80 in each of the Written and OSCE examinations.

The student’s fitness to practise i.e. students should have no current concerns regarding professionalism, and staff and student nominations (refer ELM Student Handbooks) will also be taken into account when awarding a student Distinction: at least 2 nominations from staff and 10 from peers would generally be required.

**Award of Distinction in MICN501**

Distinction is awarded to students who have achieved excellent performance in several assessments and satisfactory performance in all, and who do not have any current concerns regarding professionalism.

To gain Distinction at the end of ALM5, students must:
1. Be nominated for Potential Distinction by their school, based on performance during ALM4 and ALM5
2. Achieve a pass in both the Written examination and OSCE in the common component examination
3. Achieve an aggregate score above the Distinction threshold in the common component examination.

**Award of Distinction in MICN601**

Distinction for the year overall will be determined by:

- Achieving Distinguished Performance in at least one discipline and being invited to sit a Distinction assessment in at least one other;
- OR
- Being invited to sit a Distinction assessment in at least three disciplines;
- AND
- Not having major concerns in other modules or fitness to practise professionalism concerns.

**Award of MB ChB with Distinction**

The decision to award the MB ChB with distinction is made by the BoC 6 under delegated authority from the Otago Medical School Academic Board. To obtain a degree with distinction a student should achieve a distinction in:

- ALM6 and
- ALM5 (includes achievement in ALM4) and
- ELM2 or ELM3

Students who fail to pass a year at the first attempt or who have had significant issues with professional conduct would not usually be recommended for the degrees with Distinction.

Exceptional circumstances may be taken into account at the discretion of the BoC 6.