FMF–FMFI Anomaly Scan Certification

Guidelines for Delegates & Applicants | Fetal Medicine Foundation India Trust | June 2026

1. Overview

The FMF-FMFI Anomaly Scan Certification is offered as part of the Mid-Trimester Package by the Fetal Medicine Foundation India Trust (FMFI), in academic affiliation with the Fetal Medicine Foundation UK (FMF UK). The certification establishes an internationally benchmarked standard for mid-trimester fetal anatomy screening across India.

This document is the official guideline for delegates and applicants wishing to pursue the Anomaly Scan Certification. It describes the eligibility criteria, the four-step certification pathway, the 24-image submission protocol, quality standards, and the certificates awarded upon successful completion.

The Anomaly Scan Certification programme is scheduled to go live in June 2026, following the successful rollout of the NT Certification

Applicants are encouraged to register on www.fmfindia.in and ensure their FMFI ID is active before the launch date.

2. Why Get Certified?

- **Clinical Excellence:** Demonstrate clinical proficiency in mid-trimester fetal anatomy scanning to the highest international standards.
- **AI-Enhanced Quality Control:** Benefit from AI-assisted pre-audit feedback on your submitted images, helping you refine technique before final review.
- **Patient Trust & Visibility:** Your name will be listed on the FMFI Interactive Map of India and the FMF UK directory, enabling patients to verify your expertise.
- **Global Recognition:** Earn a co-branded FMF UK / FMFI Certificate of Competence recognised globally by the fetal medicine community.
- **Career Advancement:** Gain eligibility for upcoming advanced certifications including Fetal Cardiac Scan and Invasive Diagnostic Procedures.
- **Important Note:** The FMFI certification programme is a skill-enhancement initiative. It does not constitute an assessment of overall clinical performance and should not be referenced for medico-legal purposes.

3. Eligibility & pre-requisites

The following pre-requisites must be met before applying for the Anomaly Scan Certification:

- **Active FMFI Account:** An active FMFI account is mandatory. Register at fmfindia.in to obtain your FMFI ID. All certification applications, image submissions, and renewal processes are managed through this portal.
- **Relevant Clinical Qualification:** Applicants should hold a recognised medical qualification in obstetrics, radiology, or a related specialty with demonstrable experience in obstetric ultrasound.
- **First Trimester Certification:** Completion of the First Trimester Certifications (FT Module) is strongly recommended but is not a mandatory prerequisite for the Anomaly Scan Certification.
- **PCPNDT Act Compliance:** Applicants must comply with the PCPNDT Act and all applicable Indian regulatory requirements for obstetric ultrasound throughout the certification process.

4. The Four-Step Certification Pathway

Certification Component	Details
FMF UK Online Course	Free lectures by Prof. Kypros Nicolaides & Team on the FMF UK website
Comprehensive FMFI Onsite Workshop	Mandatory in-person workshop at an FMFI-approved course; certificate provided
Image Submission	24-image set of mid-trimester fetal anatomy submitted via FMFI portal
Practical Examination	Hands-on scanning assessment overseen by an FMFI-approved examiner
Listing (on certification)	Name listed on FMF UK & FMFI India directories for Mid-Trimester Module
Renewal	No periodic renewal is required for Anomaly Scan certification

Step-by-Step Details

Step 1: FMF UK Online Course (Theory)

Complete the free online lectures on fetal abnormalities delivered by Professor Kypros Nicolaides & team on the FMF UK website. Upon completion, a Certificate of Completion is issued by FMF UK on their platform. This step is self-paced and available at no cost. FMFI recommends treating the Fetal Abnormalities course as a core pre-certification learning resource.

Step 2: FMFI Comprehensive Onsite Workshop

Attend a mandatory, in-person comprehensive workshop conducted by FMFI-approved educators at an approved centre. The workshop provides localised clinical context, live scanning demonstrations, and ensures adherence to Indian clinical standards. A Comprehensive Onsite Workshop Completion Certificate is issued by FMFI upon attendance.

Step 3: Image Submission (24-Image Set)

Submit one complete set of 24 high-quality mid-trimester fetal anatomy images (taken from one fetus only) through the FMFI portal. Images undergo a rigorous three-stage verification: (i) Automated system checks for date validity, resolution, de-identification and plagiarism; (ii) AI pre-screening with criteria pre-fill; and (iii) Expert review by FMFI Auditors. An FMFI Audit Report for Image Assessment is issued upon successful review.

Step 4: Practical Examination

Undergo a hands-on scanning assessment overseen by an FMFI-approved examiner at a nominated clinical centre. The exam assesses scanning technique, landmark identification, measurement accuracy and PCPNDT Act compliance. An FMFI Practical Exam Certificate of Competence is issued upon passing. The final FMF UK Certificate of Competence is then issued by FMF UK.

5. Image Submission Protocol — 24-Image Set

Applicants must submit one complete set of 24 images representing standard mid-trimester fetal anatomy views. Each image must correspond precisely to the plane, structure, and demonstration requirement described in the table below. Images must be acquired between the standard mid-trimester gestational window, typically 18–23 weeks.

General Image Quality Standards

- Images should have been taken in the last 6 months.
- Each organ or structure should occupy approximately 75% of the image frame.
- All images must be correctly and clearly labelled before submission.
- Gain, focal zones and depth must be optimised for each plane

- Images must be de-identified (patient name/identifier removed) prior to upload.
- Colour Doppler images (Images 17 & 19) must show clear flow mapping.
- A single submission constitutes all 24 images as one set (One fetus) — partial sets are not accepted.

No	System	View / Plane	Structure / Landmark	What to Demonstrate
1	**Head**	**Axial – Trans-ventricular Plane**	BPD / OFD / Lateral Ventricle (CSP level)	Measure BPD, OFD and atrium of the lateral ventricle (should be < 10 mm); CSP must be visible
2	**Head**	**Axial – Trans-cerebellar Plane (Suboccipital-bregmatic)**	Cerebellum / Cisterna Magna / Nuchal Fold	Show dumb-bell shape cerebellum, cisterna magna and nuchal fold; include measurements of all three
3	**Face**	**Axial – Transverse Orbits**	Both Eye Sockets & Lenses	Show both orbits with lenses; assess for hypo/hypertelorism or cataracts
4	**Face**	**Axial - Face**	Hard Palate	Demonstrate an intact hard palate
5	**Face**	**Coronal - Face**	Upper Lip & Nostrils	Demonstrate integrity of the upper lip and nostrils; rule out cleft lip
6	**Face**	**Mid-sagittal – Fetal Profile**	Nasal Bone / Chin / Forehead	Nasal bone with end-to-end measurement; exclude micrognathia; show forehead profile
7	**Face**	**Parasagittal**	External Ear	Show shape and measurement of the external ear
8	**Spine**	**Sagittal**	Cervical & Upper Thoracic Spine	Show intact skin line and natural curvature of the upper spine
9	**Spine**	**Sagittal**	Lumbosacral Spine	Demonstrate the lower spine including the lumbosacral region and sacral curvature
10	**Spine**	**Axial**	Sacral Spine / Sacrum	Demonstrate the tip of the sacral spine and intact skin covering the tip
11	**Anterior Abdominal Wall**	**Axial**	Fetal Abdominal Cord Insertion	Show the umbilical cord entering the abdomen; exclude omphalocele or gastroschisis
12	**Abdomen**	**Axial – Abdominal Plane**	Abdominal Circumference (AC)	Show stomach bubble on left, portal vein (J-shape) and measure abdominal circumference
13	**Cardia**	**Axial**	4-Chamber View (4CH)	Demonstrate symmetry, ventricular septum, differential insertion of AV valves, and foramen ovale flap in the left atrium
14	**Cardia**	**Axial**	Left Ventricular Outflow Tract (LVOT)	Show aorta arising from the left ventricle maintaining septo-aortic and mitral-aortic continuity
15	**Cardia**	**Axial**	Right Ventricular Outflow Tract (RVOT)	Demonstrate pulmonary artery arising from the right ventricle and branching
16	**Cardia**	**Axial**	3-Vessel / Trachea View (3VV / 3VT)	Show alignment and relative sizes of the Pulmonary Artery, Aorta and Superior Vena Cava
17	**Cardia**	**Axial – Colour Doppler**	Normal Right Subclavian Artery (NRSA)	Demonstrate the RSA coursing in the upper thorax behind the trachea on Colour Doppler Flow imaging
18	**Urinary Tract**	**Axial**	Renal Pelvices	Demonstrate antero-posterior diameters of renal pelvis bilaterally
19	**Urinary Tract**	**Axial**	Bladder & Umbilical Arteries	Show bladder with Colour Doppler demonstrating two umbilical arteries hugging the bladder walls
20	**Extremities**	**Longitudinal**	Femur Length (FL)	Demonstrate longitudinal view with measurement of the femur
21	**Extremities**	**Longitudinal**	Lower Legs – Tibia / Fibula with Foot	Show the lower leg and the foot; exclude club foot (CTEV)
22	**Extremities**	**Longitudinal**	Forearms – Radius / Ulna and Open Hand	Demonstrate the two bones of the forearm and an open hand
23	**Extremities**	**Footprint View**	All Toes	Demonstrate the footprint with all toes visible; legs must not be in view
24	**General**	**Longitudinal**	Placental Edge – Cervix	Demonstrate the relation between the lower end of the placenta and the cervix; assess proximity of placenta to the cervical os

6. Quality Standards & Audit Checklist

The FMFI audit process applies a rigorous quality check to every image set. The following issues will result in an immediate request for re-submission. Applicants are strongly advised to self-audit their images against this checklist before upload.

Issue	Description / Action Required
Blurry Borders	If gain is too high or focal zone is misplaced, structures such as heart valves will not be crisp. Adjust gain and focal zones before capturing.
Acoustic Shadowing	Do not allow a rib or a limb to shadow the spine or heart. Reposition the transducer to obtain a clear view.
Incomplete Outflow Tracts	In the LVOT/RVOT images, the vessel must be clearly shown originating from the ventricle. Partial views are not accepted.
Wrong Magnification	Each organ or structure should occupy approximately 75% of the frame. Images that are too small cannot be verified anatomically.
Incorrect Labelling	All images must be correctly labelled. Mislabelled or unlabelled images will be rejected.

7. Self-Audit Before Submission

Before uploading your 24-image set, verify each of the following:

- All 24 images are present and submitted as a single complete set, ie from a single fetus.
- Each image is correctly labelled with the corresponding view/plane number.
- Patient identifiers have been removed (de-identified) from every image.
- Each structure occupies approximately 75% of the frame (correct magnification).
- Gain and focal zone are optimised — no blurring, artefact or shadowing over the region of interest.
- Colour Doppler flow is clearly visible in Images 17 (NRSA) & 19 (bladder / umbilical arteries)
- All required measurements are visible and clearly annotated where specified.
- Image date is correct and consistent with the gestational age of the scan.

8. Certificates Issued

Following completion of all 4 steps, Anomaly Scan Certificate will be issued by FMF-FMFI.

Upon certification, your name, city and certification date will be listed on the FMFI India Interactive Map and on the FMF UK platform directory under: Anomaly Scan / Mid-Trimester Module.

The Anomaly Scan Certification has no periodic renewal requirement, unlike the NT Audit which renews annually.

9. Fees

Steps	Component	Format	Reference Fee (NT)
1	Online Theory Course	Online (FMF UK) + Mandatory Onsite (FMFI)	NA
2	Comprehensive Anomaly Scan workshop (Onsite)	Lectures, Live demos and case discussions x 2 days	As per organisers
3	Image Submission & Audit	Digital Audit (AI-assisted + Expert Review)	₹ 5,900
4	Practical Assessment	In-person at FMFI-nominated centres	₹ 5,900

10. How to Apply — Step-by-Step

1. Register on the FMFI portal at www.fmfindia.in and obtain your FMFI ID.
2. Complete the FMF UK Online Lectures (free, self-paced) at the FMF UK website and obtain your Certificate of Completion.
3. Attend the FMFI Comprehensive Onsite Workshop at an FMFI-approved education centre and collect your completion certificate.
4. Prepare your 24-image set in accordance with the protocol in Section 5 of this guideline. Self-audit against the checklist in Section 6 before uploading.
5. Log in to www.fmfindia.in and submit your 24-image set via the FMFI portal. You will receive an automated acknowledgement and an AI pre-audit report.
6. Following image approval, schedule and attend your Practical Examination at an FMFI-nominated centre with an approved examiner.
7. On successfully passing all components, your FMFI Audit Report and Practical Exam Certificate will be issued via the FMFI portal. FMF UK will then issue the final Certificate of Competence.
8. Your name will appear on both the FMFI India Interactive Map and the FMF UK platform directory.

11. Disclaimer

The FMFI certification and audit programme is a skill enhancement initiative and does not constitute an assessment of a practitioner's overall clinical performance or day-to-day practice. It should not be referenced for any medico-legal purposes.

All information, images, and documents submitted on the FMFI platform are used solely for certification and audit evaluation and will not be shared with any third party or used for commercial purposes.

Certification requirements, fees, and timelines are subject to change. Applicants are advised to check the FMFI portal for the most current information before applying.

12. Contact and Further Information

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Online Resources

FMFI Website: www.fmfindia.in
FMFI Portal / Sign-Up: audit.fmfindia.in
Certification Requirements: www.fmfindia.in/certifications

For Patient Verification: www.fmfindia.in (For Patients tab)