



Preethi Raghavan.



Tong Yee Sheun.

# Knowledge progression in pharmacy practice

THE professional roles of pharmacists are continuously evolving and this has resulted in many pharmacists seeking to further their studies to postgraduate. They seek a programme that can better equip them with the fundamental knowledge and skills to enhance their career opportunities as clinical or consultant pharmacists.

For those interested in pharmacy practice, the Master of Pharmacy Practice (MPP) from International Medical University (IMU) may be their choice.

With its launch in January this year, this programme brings together working pharmacists from a variety of professional areas. It provides an opportunity for professionals to extend their academic experience to related fields of specialisation such as clinical pharmacy, social and administrative pharmacy or pharmacy management.

Lim Xinyu, a student in the inaugural intake, was attracted to the programme designed for working adults with a mixture of business and pharmacy in its curriculum. She decided to pursue the MPP at IMU after gaining three and a half years of working experience in hospitals and pharmaceutical industries.

By studying this programme, she is able to gain better insight into the pharmaceutical industry and improve herself as she strongly believes in lifelong learning, a concept she learnt from IMU as an undergraduate student.



Lim Xinyu.

"I started my career as a hospital pharmacist then changed my pathway into the pharmaceutical industry. After being in the profession for almost four years, I decided to do my master's to aim for a higher position in a pharmaceutical company," says Lim.

Preethi Raghavan, a clinical pharmacist, has seven years of working experience in government hospitals. While continuing her job, she chose to study MPP on a part-time mode.

This option gives her the flexibility to achieve her dreams by furthering her studies to enhance her clinical knowledge and research skills.

With this knowledge, she is aiming to develop a sub-specialisation in the pharmacy profession focusing on infectious and retroviral diseases. She also wants to be an educator and policymaker in setting guidelines for better pharmaceutical care. Her aim is to uplift the stature of pharmacists in the healthcare system.

"I am delighted that IMU is able to provide a platform for working individuals to study their master's part-time with online and weekend lectures – fully equipped with resources for my studies and very approachable lecturers," says Preethi.

Tong Yee Sheun, who is a pharmacist in a community clinic says, "As an IMU alumna, it is a great option to pursue my master's at IMU. In today's competitive world, it is increasingly important to stand out and I felt a postgraduate qualification can be a way of increasing my skills and knowledge in pharmacy practice."

The master's programme is offered in a blended mode, which means working pharmacists can undertake much of the studies online with some weekend on-campus sessions that include face-to-face teaching and learning.

■ For more information, call 03-2731 7272, e-mail [postgraduate@imu.edu.my](mailto:postgraduate@imu.edu.my) or visit [www.imu.edu.my](http://www.imu.edu.my).