

PHARMACY



**INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
MALAYSIA**



**SCHOOL OF
PHARMACY
2023**

What is IMU's Pharmacy Programme About?



OVERVIEW

Students who enrol in the pharmacy programme at International Medical University (IMU) will have the option to complete the 4-year professional degree at IMU or can avail themselves of the credit transfer options to the University of Otago, New Zealand or University of Tasmania, Australia. The students in both tracks undertake the same curriculum in the first two years of the study.

The curriculum is benchmarked to international standards and the standards of Pharmacy Board Malaysia and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency. The curriculum accommodates several modules across the eight semesters and is categorised into Basic Sciences, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Technology, Pharmacy Practice and Clinical Pharmacy. In addition, the curriculum also includes the Elective, Selective and the MPU modules.

The early introduction of foundational concepts associated with the disciplines above provides a better understanding of the concepts in the later years and leads to the ability to adapt to workplace-based learning with greater confidence in the final year. The curriculum also includes elements of digital health across various modules for the students to acquaint themselves with the digital transformation in the field.

The programme adopts several methods of delivery, including lectures, workshops, problem-based learning, pharmacy skills development sessions using the clinical skills and simulation centre, model industry concept, tutorials, computer-aided learning, practical, research, elective, placements and visits. The involvement of industrial experts from community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, industrial pharmacy and academic pharmacy in the delivery of the teaching and assessments is an attempt to foster graduate preparedness to the workplace.

The programme fosters experiential learning through the activities spread across all the four years of the programme through modules like Pharmacy and Healthcare I and II, Pharmaceutics I, The Cardiovascular and Renal Systems, Medicine Dispensing and Counselling, Complementary Medicines, Community Pharmacy, Veterinary Pharmacy, Cancer, Public Health Pharmacy, Research Project I including workplace-based learning at the pharmaceutical industry, community pharmacy and hospital pharmacy through the Industrial Placement, Community Pharmacy Placement and Hospital Pharmacy Placement modules. The students also have the opportunities to gain global exposure through the elective and research modules in the programme.

To better prepare the students for their Provisionally Registered Pharmacist (PRP) training, the programme also prepares the students through a module for the Qualifying Examination to Practice Pharmacy conducted by the Pharmacy Board Malaysia (www.pharmacy.gov.my), a prerequisite for the students to start their PRP training.

Overall, the BPharm (Hons) programme at IMU is designed in a way that our graduates continue to be preferred by employers across the extensive job market for a pharmacy professional.

DEGREE / DURATION

**Bachelor of Pharmacy
(Hons) (IMU)**
– 4 years

**Degree from partner
universities**
– 4 years

COMMENCEMENT

July and September

PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

AUSTRALIA



NEW ZEALAND



A Word from the Programme Director

“ The IMU BPharm (Hons) programme was established in 2004 with an aim to produce world-class Pharmacy graduates who are competent, and are able to adapt to the ever changing practice environments. Pharmacy is a noble profession where patient safety and patient care are utmost goals of the practice. Pharmacy graduates are generally employed in various sectors namely, hospitals, community outlets, pharmaceutical industries, higher education sectors, drug regulatory bodies and armed forces. The BPharm programme at IMU offers students the opportunity to empower themselves through innovative methods and an outcome based curriculum, that enable them to be competent and practice-ready. ”

A/PROF DR DINESH KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

Associate Professor & Programme Director
BPharm, MPharm (Manipal), PhD (Manipal)

How Does the Programme Work?



As trusted community health advisors, pharmacists promote the safe use of medications and improve treatment outcomes.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE



* Selective Modules:

1. Cosmeceuticals
2. Radiopharmacy
3. Veterinary Pharmacy
4. Traditional Chinese Medicine
5. Introduction to Healthcare Data Analytics
6. Digital Health Applications

The curriculum is reviewed periodically and is subject to change.

The MPU modules are compulsory modules imposed by Ministry of Higher Education under the Private Higher Educational Institutions Act 1996 (Act 555). All students must take these modules and pass as a prerequisite for the award of the degree.

ASSESSMENT

The programme was the first outcome-based pharmacy degree to be developed in Malaysia. Assessments (formative and summative) such as practical and written tests, assignments, presentations are an integral part of BPharm's learning process; the IMU School of Pharmacy was the first to use Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE) to assess practice competency skills.

RECOGNITION OF DEGREE

The degree is recognised by the Pharmacy Board Malaysia, and by the Universities of Tasmania and Otago for credit transfer into their BPharm programmes. Students transfer after completing Year 2 at IMU, and receive the partner universities' degrees. The pharmacy programmes of these institutions are accredited by the Australian Pharmacy Council and the Pharmacy Board Malaysia. Majority of BPharm (IMU) graduates are serving in Malaysia (public and private hospitals, community pharmacies and pharmaceutical industries) while a small group is working abroad.

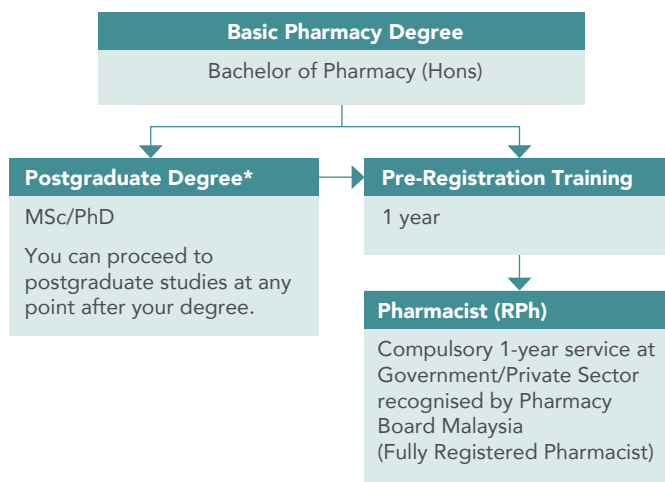
CAREER PATHWAY

Pharmacy is the science of medicines – their discovery, development into products, clinical evaluations and use in health maintenance, disease prevention and treatment. Pharmacy is also the profession that uses this unique body of knowledge in the service of society.

A career in pharmacy is versatile and highly rewarding. Graduates can work mainly with people, using their unique knowledge and skills in patient care. Community pharmacists help clients choose medicines by providing associated information and advice, and help to manage long term conditions. In the hospital setting, clinical pharmacists work in partnership with doctors deciding on the best medicines and the optimal doses for patients to produce maximal effect with minimal side effects.

Graduates can also focus mainly on products – industrial pharmacists hold key responsibilities in the manufacture and quality control of medicines. Pharmacists' knowledge and skills are put to good use in research and development, registration of medicinal products, regulatory affairs, import, export, distribution and marketing of medicines. The Malaysian Government under the NKEA (National Key Economic Area) aims to expand Malaysia's pharmaceutical product and medical device manufacturing, clinical research, and develop aged-care services.

CAREER PATHS FOR PHARMACISTS IN MALAYSIA



Please note that in order to work with the Malaysian public sector, graduates will be required to have a credit in SPM Bahasa Malaysia.

International students are advised to check with the professional bodies for internship/practising opportunities.

Career Opportunities

COMMUNITY

- Medication therapy management
- Prescription screening
- Medicine dispensing, counselling and advisory
- Procurement manager
- Health screening
- Public health promotion

HOSPITAL

- Clinical pharmacy
- Therapeutic drug monitoring
- Parenteral nutrition pharmacy
- Cytotoxic drug reconstitution pharmacy
- Inpatient/Outpatient pharmacy
- Nuclear pharmacy
- Drug information services

INDUSTRY

- Clinical research
- Regulatory affairs
- Pharmaceutical quality assurance
- Quality control
- Product development (R&D)
- Pharmaceutical manufacturing
- Pharmaceutical sales and marketing
- Pharmaceutical distribution
- Pharmaceutical product management
- Analytical method development
- Pharmacogenomics
- Herbal medicine research/development
- Biotechnology
- Biosimilar/Bioequivalence

GOVERNANCE

- Regulatory affairs
- Drug enforcement division
- Public health promotion
- Pharmacy practice and development

MALAYSIAN ARMED FORCES

- Military pharmacy (RMDC)
- Military peace keeping operations
- Humanitarian assistance disaster relief

ACADEMIA

- Teaching (usually requires postgraduate Master or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD))
- Drug discovery/development research
- Pharmaceutical/Medical science research

ENTREPRENEUR

- Retail pharmacy
- Pharmaceutical manufacturing
- Clinical research
- Pharmaceutical distribution/wholesale
- Consultancy
- Supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients/excipients

What Our Students Say



“The reason I chose IMU is that I like the approach IMU takes to the pharmacy programme. I strongly believe that the course structure provided will equip us with the required and extra knowledge as a Pharmacist in the years to come. Besides that, I know that IMU will be the best place for me to continue pursuing my passion in Pharmacy as I am also passionate about creating solutions in which I can collaborate with like-minded individuals around a shared vision. IMU’s Alumni-Mentor programme will provide opportunities in this for me. Moreover, IMU also provides students with life-changing opportunities as I am fortunate enough to be given a full scholarship to pursue my degree here at IMU. For that, I am forever grateful to IMU.”

Ng Xin Rui *Student*

“IMU BPharm programme has equipped me with the resources and professional guidance towards my passion in the pharmacy field. This passion of mine originated from my personal dedication to provide the best guidance and support as a pharmacist towards the community. IMU has provided me a platform to sharpen my clinical knowledge and encouraged me to achieve more in life-long learning. Deliveries of lectures were done in ways where discussion among students allowed for deeper understanding. When going through the programme, there were chances where I could work closely with several lecturers for scientific paper publications. Aside from strong academic support, I have also been given opportunity to build networking from various extracurricular activities. Overall, this programme prepared me well for my future career as a competitive pharmacist.”



Wong Yee Hua *Alumna*

What Our Students Say



“ Studying BPharm at IMU has been a rewarding experience for me. I believe that the IMU BPharm programme provides quality education that equips students with the necessary skills and knowledge to become professional pharmacists. Even during the pandemic, when students were unable to attend face-to-face classes, the school adapted quickly to continue delivering the curriculum and conducting assessments while maintaining quality. The lecturers are also very supportive and always ready to help. Throughout my time at IMU, I was able to gain essential knowledge and develop soft skills through various learning sessions that constantly challenged me to do my best. ”

Ahmad Khairul Daniel *Alumnus*

“ While attending one of the student exploratory workshops, IMU's holistic teaching and learning model captured my attention as it values practical experience just as much as academic excellence. Through the first two years of weekly lectures, problem based learning sessions, Pharmacy skills development sessions, Objective Structured Clinical Examination, I was trained to master effective communication skills and sound pharmaceutical knowledge alongside valuable laboratory skill sets that helped ease my transition to the partner pharmacy school. Our dedicated lectures have always offered relentless support and guidance while also respecting and nurturing my need for self-learning ever since I embarked on the journey towards becoming a valuable member of the healthcare profession through IMU's Bachelor of Pharmacy degree. ”



Gavithra Sivabalan *Alumna*

Why Study Pharmacy at IMU?

1

An Established Private Healthcare University

IMU is Malaysia's first and most established private medical and healthcare university with over 30 years of dedicated focus in healthcare education. IMU achieved the SETARA-2018/2019 Tier 6 status (Outstanding) under the Mature University category.

2

Graduates' Career Readiness and Employability for the future jobs

Innovations in digital health are reshaping how healthcare is accessed and provided worldwide, and is set to revolutionise the healthcare sector in the future. In line with this, the School of Pharmacy is committed to provide up-to-date teaching and learning experiences by incorporating the digital health components in the pharmacy curriculum to prepare our graduates to be work-ready and responsive in a technology-driven healthcare industry.

3

Unique Pharmacy Alumni-Mentor Programme

With more than 3,000 pharmacy graduates in our alumni network, the School introduces a 'Alumni-Mentor' programme, which focuses on connecting students with established alumni career professionals; providing them with a unique opportunity to improve transferable skills, strengthen networking skills and promote seamless transition from university to workplace. Our students will learn more about possible career paths from experienced professionals when they embark on the programme.

4

Bringing Industry to University Teaching

As part of the graduate preparedness for workplace, the School is actively engaging industrial experts from community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy, industrial pharmacy and academic pharmacy, to share their work experiences, expected competencies, and career prospects as well as teaching. This would provide students with exposure on the latest practical aspects and know-how, and understand how their knowledge can be translated to the workplace.

5

Opportunity to Gain Global Experience

Students will have the opportunities to gain global experiences through elective or research placements in UK, Australia, New Zealand, France, Japan, Taiwan and Singapore. Participating in international educational programmes will be an added advantage to the students as they broaden their perspectives on global opportunities, international work culture and knowledge including networking opportunities. Each student is given a guaranteed financial support, to meet either part or full travel expenses.

CONTACT US

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PROGRAMMES AT IMU

Pre-University

Foundation in Science
KPT/JPT(R2/010/3/0186)09/2028
MQA/FA3974

Undergraduate

Biomedical Science

KPT/JPT(R3/421/6/0011)12/2027
MQA/A8230

Chinese Medicine

KPT/JPT(R2/721/6/0059)01/2027
MQA/A10260

Chiropractic

KPT/JPT(R/726/6/0054)08/2026
MQA/A9294

Dentistry

KPT/JPT(R3/724/6/0010)01/2030
MQA/FA7026

Dietetics with Nutrition

KPT/JPT(R2/726/6/0021)09/2029
MQA/A8176

Digital Health

KPT/JPT(N/482/6/0209)03/2028
MQA/PSA14380

Medical Biotechnology

KPT/JPT(R2/545/6/0014)09/2027
MQA/FA15505

Medicine

KPT/JPT(R2/721/6/0033)09/2026
MQA/FA6155

Nutrition

KPT/JPT(R2/726/6/0011)06/2027
MQA/FA1298

Nursing

KPT/JPT(R/723/6/0125)04/2027
MQA/FA8944
KPT/JPT(N-DL/0913/6/0001)09/2029
MQA/PA14397

Pharmaceutical Chemistry

KPT/JPT(R3/442/6/0003)01/2028
MQA/A8229

Pharmacy

KPT/JPT(R2/727/6/0050)09/2026
MQA/FA8374

Psychology

KPT/JPT(R3/311/6/0013)09/2027
MQA/A8177

Postgraduate

Acupuncture (MSc)

KPT/JPT(R/721/7/0071)03/2027
MQA/SWA8570

Analytical & Pharmaceutical Chemistry (MSc)

KPT/JPT(R2-CDL/442/7/0001)01/2027
MQA/FA1191
KPT/JPT(N-DL/442/7/0022)02/2026
MQA/PSA11367

Business Administration in Healthcare Management (PG Cert/PG Dip/Master)

KPT/JPT(R/345/7/1082)09/2028
MQA/PSA11354
KPT/JPT(R/345/7/1090)12/2028
MQA/SWA11355
KPT/JPT(R/345/7/1085)10/2028
MQA/SWA11353

Clinical Psychology (Master)

KPT/JPT(N/0313/7/0001)07/2027
MQA/PSA15641

Counselling (Master)

KPT/JPT(N/762/7/0046)09/2026
MQA/FA12002

Diabetes Management & Education (PG Dip)

KPT/JPT(R/726/7/0030)01/2028
MQA/SWA9086
KPT/JPT(N-DL/0915/7/0004)11/2027
MQA/PSA16046

Endodontics (PG Dip)

KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0043)05/2024
MQA/SWA12162

Health Informatics and Analytics (PG Cert/PG Dip/Master)

KPT/JPT(N/720/7/0131)09/2025
MQA/SWA13973
KPT/JPT(N/720/7/0130)09/2025
MQA/PSA13972
KPT/JPT(N/720/7/0129)09/2025
MQA/SWA13974

Health Professions Education (PG Cert/PG Dip/Master)

KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0066)09/2025
MQA/SWA05162
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0064)09/2025
MQA/PA5163
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0070)09/2025
MQA/SWA5164
KPT/JPT(N-DL/145/7/0120)02/2026
MQA/SWA14379

Implant Dentistry (PG Dip)

KPT/JPT(R/724/7/0019)06/2026
MQA/SWA6111

Molecular Medicine (MSc)

KPT/JPT(R2/545/7/0078)07/2027
MQA/FA1299
KPT/JPT(N-DL/545/7/0101)09/2025
MQA/SWA11357

Pharmacy Practice (Master)

KPT/JPT(R/727/7/0051)03/2024
MQA/SWA02796

Prosthodontics (PG Dip)

KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0042)05/2024
MQA/SWA12163

Public Health (MSc)

KPT/JPT(R2/720/7/0077)09/2025
MQA/A10261
KPT/JPT(R-DL/720/7/0811)09/2028
MQA/SWA11356

Medical & Health Sciences (MSc/PhD)

KPT/JPT(R2/720/7/0049)06/2026
MQA/A10618
KPT/JPT(R2/721/8/0043)01/2027
MQA/A3767



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MALAYSIA



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