What is IMU’s Pharmacy Programme About?

OVERVIEW

Students in the Pharmacy programme have the option to complete the entire 4-year programme locally at IMU or credit transfer to the University of Otago, New Zealand or University of Tasmania, Australia. The curriculum includes the life sciences presented in a body systems-based format, encompassing anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, microbiology, molecular biology, immunology and pathology. Organic, inorganic, medicinal chemistry and pharmaceutical analysis form the basis of pharmaceutical chemistry. Pharmaceutical technology prepares students in drug formulation, delivery, clinical pharmacokinetics, management and marketing. Pharmacy practice explores the role of the pharmacist in clinical and community healthcare, and professionalism.

Practice and experiential skills are acquired and developed in small groups, using the University’s Clinical Skills & Simulation Centre and Model Industry Concept for early exposure to practice settings. Work-based experiential learning integrates classroom learning with real world experience and develops practice skills through industry, community and hospital pharmacy attachments in various states in Malaysia, mainly in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor. Each student must conduct a supervised research project and write a dissertation on their research work. Mobility arrangements with IMU partner universities abroad enable some students to conduct part of their research under co-supervision of lecturers in these partner schools.

The School of Pharmacy also prepares students for the Qualifying Examination for Registration as a Practicing Pharmacist which is conducted by the Pharmacy Board Malaysia (www.pharmacy.gov.my).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEGREE / DURATION</th>
<th>COMMENCEMENT</th>
<th>PARTNER UNIVERSITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm) (Hons) (IMU) – 4 years</td>
<td>July and September</td>
<td>AUSTRALIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degree from partner universities (BPharm) – 4 years</td>
<td></td>
<td>NEW ZEALAND</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pharmacist, the medicines expert is imperative in the healthcare system and have impact on patient care and health outcomes. The professional scope of a pharmacist is wide and includes practice in hospitals, community settings, pharmaceutical industries, regulatory bodies, research and academia. The pharmacy curriculum at IMU provides every student with distinctive opportunities to tailor them for a lifetime of career fulfilment and succession in the diverse practice settings. The IMU BPharm (Hons) programme established in 2004 has been and will continue to produce caring and competent pharmacist for every community!

DR MAYUREN CANDASAMY
Senior Lecturer and Programme Director
BPharm, MPharm, PhD, RPh (India)
How Does the Programme Work?

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMESTER</th>
<th>COURSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1        | General Chemistry  
Pharmaceutical Organic Chemistry  
Biological Science & Genetics  
Human Biology  
Information Acquisition & Analysis  
Introduction to Pharmacy Practice |
| 2        | General Pharmacology  
Cardiovascular System  
Gastrointestinal System  
Pharmaceutics I  
Physical Pharmacy  
Behavioural Science  
MPU - U2 (English Academic Writing) |
| 3        | Pharmaceutics II  
Pharmaceutical Analysis  
Natural Products in Medicine  
Microbiology for Pharmacists  
Renal System  
Respiratory System  
Extemporaneous Dispensing  
MPU - U4 (Part 1) |
| 4        | Endocrine & Reproductive System  
Haematology & Immunology  
Pharmaceutics III  
Infectious Disease  
Medicinal Chemistry  
Medicine Dispensing & Counselling  
Musculoskeletal System  
MPU - U4 (Part 2) |
| 5        | Central Nervous System  
Pharmaceutics IV  
Pharmaceutical Management & Entrepreneurship  
Community Pharmacy  
Complementary Medicine  
Pharmacy Ethics & Jurisprudence  
Selective |
| 6        | Clinical Pharmacy I  
Basic & Clinical Pharmacokinetics  
Research Methodology  
Cancer Chemotherapy  
Public Health Pharmacy  
Pharmaceutical Biotechnology  
Current Trends & Critical Appraisal  
Elective |
| 7        | Research Project I  
Research Project II  
Industrial Placement |
| 8        | Clinical Pharmacy II (Community Pharmacy Placement)  
Clinical Pharmacy III (Hospital Placement)  
Clinical Pharmacy IV |

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Pharmacy Degree</th>
<th>Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate Degree*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc / PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You can proceed to postgraduate studies at any point after your degree.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Registration Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pharmacist (RPh)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory 1-year service at Government / Private Sector recognised by Pharmacy Board Malaysia (Fully Registered Pharmacist)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th>HOSPITAL</th>
<th>INDUSTRY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medication therapy management</td>
<td>Clinical pharmacy</td>
<td>Clinical research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription screening</td>
<td>Therapeutic drug monitoring</td>
<td>Regulatory affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine dispensing, counselling and advisory</td>
<td>Parenteral nutrition pharmacy</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical quality assurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement manager</td>
<td>Cytotoxic drug reconstitution pharmacy</td>
<td>Quality control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heath screening</td>
<td>Inpatient / Outpatient pharmacy</td>
<td>Product development (R&amp;D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health promotion</td>
<td>Nuclear pharmacy</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drug information services</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical sales &amp; marketing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GOVERNANCE | MALAYSIAN ARMED FORCES | ACADEMIA | ENTREPRENEUR |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory affairs</td>
<td>Military pharmacy (RMDC)</td>
<td>Teaching (Usually requires postgraduate Master or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD))</td>
<td>Retail pharmacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug enforcement division</td>
<td>Military peace keeping operations</td>
<td>Drug discovery / development research</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical manufacturing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health promotion</td>
<td>Humanitarian assistance disaster relief</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical / Medical science research</td>
<td>Clinical research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy practice &amp; development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pharmaceutical distribution / Wholesale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOVERNANCE</th>
<th>MALAYSIAN ARMED FORCES</th>
<th>ACADEMIA</th>
<th>ENTREPRENEUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Pharmacy practice &amp; development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pharmaceutical distribution / Wholesale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Military Pharmacy (MRMC)
- Clinical pharmacy
- Therapeutic drug monitoring
- Parenteral nutrition pharmacy
- Cytotoxic drug reconstitution pharmacy
- Inpatient / Outpatient pharmacy
- Nuclear pharmacy
- Drug information services

### Industry
- Drug discovery / development research
- Pharmaceutical / Medical science research
- Retail pharmacy
- Pharmaceutical manufacturing
- Consultancy
- Supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients/excipients
**PROGRAMME FEES**

All fees quoted are in Ringgit Malaysia unless stated otherwise.

**FEES OVERVIEW**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEE</th>
<th>AMOUNT (RM)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Malaysian Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fee</td>
<td>850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refundable Caution Deposit</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition Fee</td>
<td>191,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Application fee is payable upon submission of application.
- Registration fee and refundable caution deposit are payable upon acceptance of the offer letter issued by the IMU Admissions Office.
- As stipulated by Malaysian Ministry of Education, international students are required to pay Student Visa Application fee of RM2,500 AND personal bond (depending on nationality) upon registration.
- International students will also be required to pay Student Visa Renewal fee every year.
- Students must adhere to the “Policy on Payment of Fees”.
- All students are required to pay Student Association Fees of RM40 per semester.

**FEES BY PROGRAMME ROUTES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAMME ROUTE</th>
<th>Total Duration (years)</th>
<th>AT INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL UNIVERSITY (IMU)</th>
<th>AT PARTNER UNIVERSITY (PU)</th>
<th>AT IMU + PU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Semesters</td>
<td>Tuition Fee*</td>
<td>Total Tuition Fees **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Malaysian Student</td>
<td>International Student</td>
<td>Malaysian Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons) (IMU)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>23,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Transfer to University of Otago Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Transfer to University of Tasmania Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>23,950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note**

- Current estimates only.
- Based on exchange rates: A$1 = RM 3.0290, NZ$1 = RM 2.7990
- Tuition and ancillary fees at partner universities overseas are subject to annual increases.
- All fees are accurate at time of print. For latest fees and information, please go to www.imu.edu.my.
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 29 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.
What Our Students Say

IMU has provided a professional and engaging learning environment which has not only prepared us academically but also helped us adapt to the working environment in the healthcare industry. The modules covered in the pharmacy programme here are extensive and they cover all aspects that a student need to become a professional pharmacist. Moreover, IMU has provided me with opportunities to extend my skills outside the classrooms which has enabled me to gain additional experience in the healthcare industry and connect with other healthcare experts.

Vilashini Saravanan Student

The lecturers in IMU are by far one of the most prominent assets that students should utilise. Their strong work ethic and passion for knowledge has influenced many students to pursue their studies with just as much enthusiasm. During my time here, I have observed that the lecturers are always ready to help and ensure that our learning is complete, comprehensive and enjoyable. They are always ready to help students with their questions be it through email or one-on-one sessions which is an invaluable advantage.

Nurain Fasihah Binti Mohd Salihin Student

In my opinion, the IMU undergraduate pharmacy curriculum is one of the most innovative in Malaysia. This curriculum emphasise on building students’ communication skill, critical thinking capacity, and patient-centered human care in a community oriented way. My favourite learning sessions are the problem-based learning sessions. The educational staff have been very helpful and they had contributed greatly to my life and study at IMU. I am able to grow professionally and generally be better human being, this wouldn’t be possible without their support.

Abdishakur Hassan Mohamed Student

I truly enjoy learning under the tutelage of brilliant, enthusiastic lecturers here as they never fail to inspire me to be as knowledgeable as them one day. Embarking on the BPharm programme at IMU has changed me for the better, and I’m confident that by the time I graduate, I would be well-equipped with knowledge and skills of a pharmacist, beyond the textbooks.

Vilashini Saravanan Student
PROGRAMMES AT IMU

Pre-University

Foundation in Science
KPT/JPT/R/010/3/0186/09/2023
MQA/FA3974

Undergraduate

Biomedical Science
KPT/JPT(R2/421/6/0011)/09/2022
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(R2/724/6/0010)/01/2023
MQA/FA7026

Dietetics with Nutrition
KPT/JPT(R2/726/6/0021)/09/2022
MQA/A8176

Medical Biotechnology
KPT/JPT(R2/545/6/0014)/09/2022
MQA/A8228

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

Nutrition
KPT/JPT(R2/726/6/0011)/06/2022
MQA/FA1298

Nursing
KPT/JPT(R723/6/0125)/04/2027
MQA/FA8944

Pharmaceutical Chemistry
KPT/JPT(R2/442/6/0003)/01/2023
MQA/A8229

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

Psychology
KPT/JPT(R2/311/6/0013)/09/2022
MQA/A8177

Postgraduate

Acupuncture (MSc)
KPT/JPT(N/721/7/0071)/03/2022
MQA/PA8570

Analytical & Pharmaceutical Chemistry (MSc)
KPT/JPT(R/CDL/442/7/0001)/01/2022
MQA/FA1191

Business Administration in Healthcare Management (PG Cert/PG Dip/Master)
KPT/JPT(N/345/7/1082)/09/2023
MQA/PSA11354
KPT/JPT(N/345/7/1090)/12/2023
MQA/PSA11355
KPT/JPT(N/345/7/1085)/10/2023
MQA/PSA11353

Counselling (Master)
KPT/JPT(N/762/7/0046)/09/2026
MQA/PA12002

Diabetes Management & Education (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(R2/726/7/0030)/02/2023
MQA/PSA90986

Endodontics (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0043)/05/2024
MQA/PSA12162

Health Informatics and Analytics (PG Cert/PG Dip/Master)
KPT/JPT(N/720/7/0131)/09/2025
MQA/PSA13973
KPT/JPT(N/720/7/0130)/09/2025
MQA/PSA13972
KPT/JPT(N/720/7/0129)/09/2025
MQA/PSA13974

Health Professions Education (PG Cert/PG Dip/Master)
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0066)/09/2025
MQA/PSA05162
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0064)/09/2025
MQA/PSA163
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0070)/09/2025
MQA/PSA5164
KPT/JPT(DL/145/7/0120)/02/2026
MQA/PSA05162

Implant Dentistry (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(R2/724/7/0019)/06/2026
MQA/PSA6111

Molecular Medicine (MSc)
KPT/JPT(R545/7/0078)/07/2022
MQA/FA1299

Pharmacy Practice (Master)
KPT/JPT(R727/7/0051)/03/2024
MQA/PSA02796

Prosthodontics (PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(N/724/7/0042)/05/2024
MQA/PSA12163

Public Health (MSc)
KPT/JPT(R/727/7/0077)/09/2025
MQA/A10261

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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Tel +603 8656 7228 Fax +603 8656 1018 KP/JPS/5195/US/2, KP(JPS)/DFT/US/W03

The IMU has been certified with ISO 9001: 2015 for the provision of Pre-University, Undergraduate and Postgraduate Programmes for the Medical and Healthcare Professions.

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