

MSc CLINICAL PHARMACY

PAC CODE CKX03

School of Pharmacy



The MSc in Clinical Pharmacy is a two-year part-time distance learning Master's Degree offered by the School of Pharmacy, University College Cork. The distance learning format provides greater flexibility and allows students to work at their own pace and to remain in full or part-time employment throughout the course. E-learning material is supported by teleconferences/webinars with experienced medical and pharmacy practitioners. Much of the learning is case-based so scientific and professional elements are integrated.



WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The course is aimed at pharmacists working in the healthcare sectors, such as hospital and community pharmacy, who wish to enhance their clinical pharmacy knowledge and practice skills in a variety of general and specialist areas, and who want to take a lead role in developing clinical pharmacy services. Such skills include critical appraisal of drug therapies and rational drug use (including pharmacoeconomic evaluation), medication safety management, research project management, presentation skills and report writing.



Course Outline

There are **TWO OPTIONS** available to obtain the Master's Degree:

PATHWAY I:

2 year part-time programme covering all modules.

**Part 1: 60 credits taught modules
(30 credits in Year 1 and 30 credits in Year 2)**

For each of the areas covered in each individual module below students should be able to:

BIostatistics/Critical Appraisal

- Demonstrate an understanding of biomedical research types, trial designs, statistical methods involved in evaluating study findings and be able to critically evaluate a paper.
- Demonstrate an understanding of evidence-based medicine and its application to improving professional practice.

Pharmacoeconomics

- Apply the principles of health economics, economic modelling, QALYs and sensitivity analysis for use in the health care system.
- Apply the economic principles used to measure the cost-effectiveness of medicines to clinical practice, medical decision making and the rational use of medicines.

Pharmacology, Therapeutics and Rational Use of Drugs

- Discern the clinical relevance of pharmacokinetics and pharmacogenomics in practice and apply complex pharmacological principles in the clinical setting.
- Use knowledge of adverse drug reactions and drug interactions to prevent them from occurring.
- Know how medication errors occur and can be prevented and apply pharmacovigilance to monitor drug safety in practice.
- Understand harm reduction principles in terms of substance misuse.

Pharmacotherapy

Pharmacotherapy I

Gastrointestinal (including liver), respiratory, cardiovascular and renal systems.

Pharmacotherapy II

Endocrine, musculoskeletal, central nervous systems and infectious diseases.

Pharmacotherapy III

Paediatrics, the elderly, critical care (including surgery), dermatological disorders, haematological or malignant conditions and pregnancy/breast-feeding.

- Discuss and explain the epidemiology, aetiology, pathophysiology, signs, symptoms and tests leading to the diagnosis of common disorders/diseases in each area.
- Choose the appropriate and effective therapy for selected diseases of these areas.
- Formulate pharmaceutical care plans and monitor patients on drug therapies.
- Educate the patient on the use of recommended therapies and health promotion.

Part 2: 30 credits (Year 2)

RESEARCH PROJECT AND DISSERTATION

- Develop an understanding of the planning, execution and reporting of a research project. Develop problem solving skills, project management skills and presentation skills.

PATHWAY II:

1 year part-time conversion programme for students who already hold a Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy from other recognised institutions.

Students take 45 credits of course material which includes the Research project and dissertation.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

PATHWAY I

- Candidates must hold a primary pharmacy degree from a School of Pharmacy that is approved by the Programme Committee;
- They must be registered with the professional accreditation authority in the country in which they are practising;
- Ideally candidates should have practical experience in their area of qualifications of at least two years post-registration;
- Candidates must be employed in a healthcare setting;
- In some exceptional circumstances candidates, by virtue of their training and experience may, at the discretion of the Programme Director and the Head of School, be deemed suitable for entry to the degree.

PATHWAY II

In addition to the above, applicants must have completed a Postgraduate Diploma in clinical Pharmacy.



CONTACT DETAILS

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WEBSITE LINKS

MSc Clinical Pharmacy:

<http://www.ucc.ie/en/ckx03/>

Postgraduate Applications Centre

<http://www.pac.ie/ucc>