Entry requirements

The Pharmacy Council of New Zealand has set the following pre-requisites for admission:

• Applicants must hold a Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy or equivalent.

• Entrants must hold registration in the Pharmacist scope of practice and hold a current Annual Practising Certificate issued by PCNZ.

• Entrants must have at least two years of recent, appropriate and relevant post-registration experience within a collaborative health team environment, in community or hospital care based setting.

• Entrants must be able to demonstrate that Competence Standards 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the Pharmacist scope of practice are applicable and part of their current practice.

• Entrants should demonstrate how they reflect on their own performance and take responsibility for own CPD.

• Entrants must have identified an area of clinical practice in which to develop their prescribing skills and have up-to-date clinical, pharmacological and pharmaceutical knowledge relevant to their intended area of prescribing practice.

• Entrants must have identified potential Designated Medical Practitioner(s) to provide supervision, support and shadowing opportunities for the pharmacist to the education provider.

• Entrants must have discussed and identified their possible role(s) as a prescriber within the collaborative health team environment they intend to practice.

In addition, pharmacists undertaking the programme need the support of their manager to undertake the programme.

Further information on Pharmacist Prescribing in New Zealand can be found at:


For more information contact:

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Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences
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Private Bag 92019
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www.fmhs.auckland.ac.nz/pharmacistprescribing

For enrolment information

Phone: +64 9 923 2215
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For course information

Adele Print
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Are you ready to take your pharmacy career to a new direction?

It is an exciting time to be a pharmacist! Internationally, the role pharmacists can play in patient care is rapidly expanding and New Zealand is at the forefront of this. Legislation has now been passed that allows pharmacists to prescribe and the numbers of New Zealand pharmacists registered to prescribe is steadily growing. This innovation is in line with the Government’s commitment to support health practitioners to work to their full capacity and provide better, sooner, more convenient access to services for patients.

New Zealand’s two Schools of Pharmacy are collaborating to train pharmacists in the competencies needed to be an effective and safe pharmacist prescriber.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Pharmacy in Prescribing is designed to prepare pharmacists with the knowledge, skills and attributes to competently prescribe medicines within a collaborative health team environment.

The programme is taught by a wide range of expert professionals including medical practitioners, bioethicists, lawyers, patient safety experts, clinical pharmacists and academic staff.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Pharmacy in Prescribing comprises of two 30-point courses:

**PHARMACY 769 – Principles of Prescribing**

This paper builds upon the knowledge and skills gained from the Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy to provide an in-depth understanding of the principles that underpin prescribing.

**PHARMACY 770 – Prescribing Practicum**

An experiential placement where the pharmacist develops experience in prescribing in their workplace under the supervision of a designated medical prescriber.

**Programme length**

One year part-time beginning in Semester One (late February).

**What types of roles do pharmacist prescribers have?**

Pharmacist prescribers are experienced pharmacists who work in patient focused roles in collaborative healthcare teams to optimise medicines use.

For example:

- In primary care, General Practitioners are now referring patients to pharmacists, who assess the patient and work in partnership with them to optimise their ongoing medicine use and prescribe for them. Example areas of prescribing practice include renal, diabetes, hypertension, gout and management of cardiovascular risk.

- In hospitals, pharmacists are working as members of the clinical team who can now prescribe. Example areas of prescribing practice include renal, emergencies admission, surgical preadmission, parenteral nutrition, pediatrics and mental health.

**Modules**

- Consultation, patient assessment and decision-making skills.
- Influences on prescribing.
- Medicines adherence.
- Safe and effective prescribing.
- Prescribing in a collaborative healthcare team context.
- Legal and ethical aspects of prescribing.
- Clinical governance.
- Prescribing in the public health context.
- Prescribing in the context of the New Zealand Healthcare System.