

## INHERENT REQUIREMENTS UWA Master of Pharmacy Program



Inherent requirements are abilities that students must possess to successfully complete the Master of Pharmacy course. These abilities are reflected in the achievement of the course learning outcomes and are necessary to fulfil the role of a pharmacy student and to prepare for pharmacy practice. They are based around providing safe, effective and professional patient care. Students must have an ability to acquire high volumes and complexity of knowledge, apply this knowledge to diverse situations and problems in a timely manner with a high level of problem-solving, judgment and reasoning, and display high level interpersonal skills, professional behaviours and attitudes.

Pharmacy training is expensive and highly competitive. The community, health organisations and profession expend a great deal of resources on pharmacy training and have expectations of graduates who can provide high quality patient care. Thus, the ability to achieve these outcomes by pharmacy students is seen as an important part of this resource investment.

This document is advisory and provides examples of outcomes that all pharmacy students must achieve to complete the course. A complete list of outcomes and assessments is available in unit guidebooks and from individual teaching and learning activities. Achieving these outcomes could be challenging for students with certain disabilities who may require adjustments in teaching and assessment to accommodate their needs. Some of these disabilities may be permanent, but others may be temporary and occur during the course such as acute illnesses or injuries.

The Faculty is supportive of the inclusion and assistance of students with disability by providing reasonable adjustments to the teaching and assessment processes. Often an agreed support plan is implemented to assist the student within reasonable boundaries. Students intending to apply for the pharmacy course should consider whether they might experience challenges in meeting these requirements and seek advice from student and disability services together with the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences.

### Examples

Students should have sufficient abilities to enable the successful achievement of the following outcomes:

1. Professional and Ethicolegal Behaviours
  - a) Complying with professional behaviour, student conduct and health organisation policies and procedures.
  - b) Complying with relevant registration, scope of practice and legislation requirements.
  - c) Coping with own emotions and behaving professionally when exposed to difficult, unpredictable and challenging educational and clinical situations.
  - d) Functioning effectively in stressful and time-critical situations.
  - e) Responding appropriately to feedback and having appropriate insight and judgment into own abilities, limitations and health.
  - f) Maintaining life-long learning behaviours (ongoing, voluntary, self-motivated and self-directed personal development).
  - g) Putting patient care above their own interests and maintaining high ethical standards and professional boundaries.
  - h) Adhering to infection control procedures and testing and immunisation requirements.
2. Verbal Communication Skills
  - a) Understanding and participating effectively in educational and clinical discussions.
  - b) Conveying spoken English accurately and effectively.
  - c) Communicating sensitively and respectfully with others irrespective of their sex, age, culture, lifestyle, sexual orientation, spiritual beliefs, socio-economic status, health status or disability.
  - d) Providing effective patient education and counselling.
  - e) Actively participating in group discussions during tutorials and functioning in a healthcare team.

3. Non-Verbal Communication Skills
  - a) Establishing rapport and trust with patients and colleagues.
  - b) Recognising, interpreting and responding to non-verbal communication and cues including emotional changes and distress.
  - c) Being sensitive to individual differences and displaying respect, empathy and compassion.
4. Written Communication Skills
  - a) Writing essays and other academic work, in English, that meet academic standards.
  - b) Writing clinical documentation in an accurate, concise and timely fashion that meets professional standards.
  - c) Reading, comprehending and providing a written summary from multiple sources of information in a variety of formats.
5. Knowledge and Cognition
  - a) Processing appropriate and relevant information in a timely manner.
  - b) Interpreting, conceptualising, integrating and implementing knowledge in academic assessment items and in clinical practice.
  - c) Interpreting, calculating and applying numerical data and measurements.
  - d) Solving complex problems from obtaining, synthesising and evaluating information from various sources in a timely manner.
  - e) Displaying clinical reasoning with rational and consistent thought and judgements in a timely manner.
6. Sensory Abilities
  - a) Accurately read medication charts, prescriptions and related documents.
  - b) Accurately choose and dispense medicines.
  - c) Differentiating sounds, speech and alarms in a clinical environment.
7. Mobility and Motor Skills
  - a) Being independently mobile (using aids if necessary) and gathering data including patient notes, computer-based information and printed material in a timely fashion.
  - b) Perform laboratory procedures involving laboratory equipment such as drug dissolution and analysis, ointment trituration and pipetting.
8. Sustainable and Timely Performance
  - a) Providing consistent care over an appropriate time frame
  - b) Attending a program with demanding workloads and compulsory attendance for most teaching and learning activities, including full-time attendance during experiential placements.
  - c) Responding to hazards, safety issues and clinical priorities in a timely fashion.

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**Student Declaration:**

I have read, acknowledge and understand the inherent requirements. I agree that I possess the abilities required for the successful completion of the UWA Master of Pharmacy course.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

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**Sources of Information:**

*UWA MD Inherent Requirements developed by Tony Celenza. GMC Fitness to Practice; UQ Inherent Requirements for the Completion of Professional Entry Programs; University of Adelaide Inherent Requirements Statements for the MBBS Program; MDANZ review of Inherent Requirements in Medical Education (including the UWS inherent requirements for medicine courses and the Higher Education Occupations Physicians/Practitioners document on Medical Students – Standards of medical fitness to train); Deakin University Statement of Inherent Requirements for the BMBS; Harvard Medical School Technical Standards for Medical School Admission, Continuation, and Graduation Policy.*