

Postgraduate Diploma in Medicines Development

Specific admission requirements

- One of the following qualifications:
 - an MBChB or BChD degree;
 - a BPharm degree;
 - a BNurs or BSc (Biological Sciences or Biomathematics) degree with at least two years' experience in medicines development/pharmaceutical medicine; or
 - an equivalent qualification as approved by Senate.
- If you are applying with foreign qualifications and you did not use English as medium of instruction for your undergraduate studies, you may be required to provide evidence of your oral and academic-writing proficiency in English.
- International candidates must provide proof of the equivalence of qualifications obtained from a non-South African Institute. A SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority) certificate must be submitted.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply online at www.maties.com by **30 September** of the previous year. Applications for prospective international students close on **31 August**.

If you do not meet any of the above-mentioned criteria, you may be enrolled after a successful interview with programme coordinators and on approval by Senate, or the Executive Committee acting on its behalf. Admission based on your approved previous training will be considered for recommendation by Senate, or the Executive Committee acting on its behalf.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over two years.

Programme description

The Postgraduate Diploma in Medicines Development (PG Dip (Medicines Development)) will provide you with a programme of study that will expand your knowledge and skills in medicines development/pharmaceutical medicine. Medicines development/pharmaceutical medicine deals with the entire medical product life cycle, including non-clinical and clinical drug development, regulatory affairs, marketing of pharmaceutical products and drug safety/pharmacovigilance. Specifically, this discipline encompasses the following areas:

- Discovery of new medicines;
- Pharmaceutical development;
- Toxicity testing;
- Legal and ethical issues;
- Development of medicines and development planning;
- Clinical trials;
- Statistics and data management;
- Safety of medicines;
- Regulatory affairs;

- Information, promotion and education; and
- Economics of health care.

Programme outcomes

As a graduate of the Postgraduate Diploma in Medicines Development programme, you must:

- have a thorough and systematic knowledge of pharmaceutical medicine and medicines development;
- be able to critically evaluate and practically apply new knowledge, understanding and skills to the discipline of medicines development/pharmaceutical medicine in South Africa; and
- be able to evaluate and reflect on your personal and professional strengths and weaknesses in order to change your professional practice in an appropriate manner according to the best evidence available.

Presentation

The programme is offered by means of blended learning and includes e-learning, guided self-study, assignments, homework tasks and e-portfolios for integrated reflection, as well as formal lecture weeks.

Programme content

First year

Introduction to Pharmaceutical Medicine, Drug Discovery and Development Planning	775(30)
Non-clinical and Pharmaceutical Development of Medicines	775(15)
Clinical Development of Medicines	775(15)

Second year

Biometrics, Epidemiology and Data Management	775(15)
Health Care Marketplace and Economics of Health Care	775(15)
Regulatory Affairs, Ethics, Drug Safety and Pharmacovigilance	775(30)

Assessment and examination

- To be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Medicines Development, you must:
 - complete two calendar years as a registered student for the PG Dip (Medicines Development);
 - obtain at least 50% in your modular tests during the two-year programme; and
 - pass two three-hour examination papers covering the modules.
- You must pass each of the six modules with an average mark of at least 50%.
- To complete the PG Dip (Medicines Development) programme successfully, you must obtain a final mark of 50% or more for the programme. To pass the PG Dip (Medicines Development) programme with distinction, you must obtain a final mark of 75% or more for the programme.
- The final mark for the programme is calculated as the a weighted average of the marks for each component, namely:

- two three-hour written papers (2 x 30%); and
- the average mark for the six modules (40%).

Enquiries

Programme director: Prof H Reuter

Programme coordinator: Dr C Page

Programme administrator: Ms L Hanekom

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