

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

Faculty of Biology,
Medicine and Health

POST- GRADUATE PHARMACY

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER WITH TEACHING FROM
SPECIALIST PHARMACISTS AND EXPERTS IN INDUSTRY.

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PHARMACY



If you're considering undertaking a postgraduate course, either on-campus or through online and blended learning, you'll find the perfect environment at The University of Manchester.

Manchester's postgraduate courses draw upon our world-leading research and our strong links to global industry.

Whether you're looking to boost your employability with a master's or embark on a career in research you'll quickly develop skills and gain exposure to experiences that will set you apart in the job market.

WHY MANCHESTER?

Grow your network

Meet like-minded professionals both inside and outside of your course.
Join a community of leading UK clinicians and share insights through the Manchester Research Hive.

2nd

Social responsibility underpins our research activity. We're ranked as one of the top ten universities in the world for delivering against the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, 2024

93%

of the University's research activity was assessed as 'world-leading' or 'internationally – excellent' making it one of the best places in the country to build a research career.

Research Excellence Framework, 2021

International reputation

Study at a university ranked 6th in the UK for Pharmacy and Pharmacology.

QS Rankings, 2024

Flexible learning

Many of our courses offer blended learning, a mix of online and face-to-face sessions, making it easy for you to study while you work, in a way that suits you. We also offer short CPD courses such as Independent Prescribing, where accelerated learning is also complemented by six interactive campus study days.

Diverse specialisations

Choose from a range of postgraduate courses that have been developed to give you specialist knowledge and skills in areas including modelling and simulation in pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and nanomedicine.

200 YEARS OF PHARMACY AT MANCHESTER

1824

Classes in pharmaceutical chemistry began at Manchester's School of Medicine, taught by John Dalton (known for Dalton's Atomic Theory).



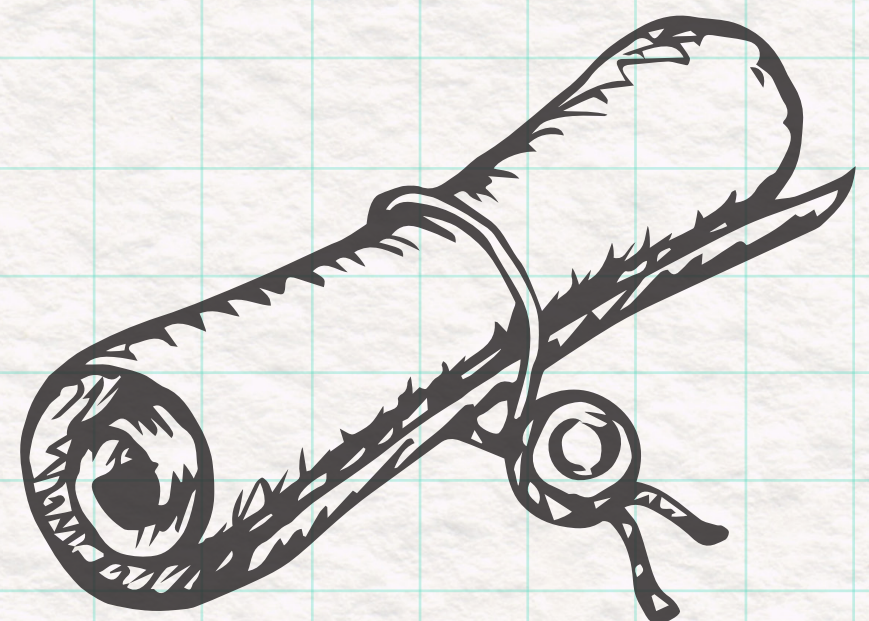
1883

The first lecturer in pharmacy was appointed at Manchester.



1945-1970s

Post-war, UK universities, including Manchester, expanded interdisciplinary research in pharmacology, establishing research units focused on drug development and pharmacological sciences.



1904

Manchester became the first British university to offer degrees in pharmacy.

2004

The merger of Victoria University and UMIST integrated health and pharmaceutical sciences within a broader, interdisciplinary framework, strengthening Manchester's position as a hub for research and education.

Manchester launched the Pharmaceutical Technology and Quality Assurance (PTQA) master's, becoming a leader in regulatory and aseptic services training.

2016



The Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health was launched, incorporating pharmacy into a multidisciplinary research ecosystem.

CPPE



2020s

CENTRE FOR PHARMACY
POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

By 2020, 77% of pharmacists in England engaged with the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE), with which Manchester partners on accredited courses such as Independent Prescribing, underscoring our role in supporting national continuing professional development.

LIFE-CHANGING RESEARCH



Our researchers contribute to society and improve healthcare and education through innovative discoveries and new knowledge.

By choosing Manchester, you will join a university at the forefront of research discoveries, but what does that mean for you?

- > You'll study in an academic environment that helps brilliant thinkers turn inspiration into reality, encouraging enterprise, experimentation, and creative thinking.
- > Courses are informed by the latest breakthroughs.
- > Learn from world-leading minds with close links to industry and a commitment to making a difference.

AT THE CORE OF DISCOVERY: RESEARCH CENTRES

Research groups are central to our academic community, driving collaboration, innovation, and deeper exploration of key issues. For postgraduates, these teams offer opportunities to engage in impactful research alongside leading experts. Explore how some of our diverse groups are shaping the future of pharmacy.



NORTH WEST CENTRE FOR ADVANCED DRUG DELIVERY (NOWCADD):

Funded through collaboration with AstraZeneca, this centre transforms emerging drug delivery science into value medicines for treating serious and life-threatening conditions, with a view to improve health outcomes.

[FIND OUT MORE →](#)

NANOMEDICINE LAB

Integrates nanotechnology, bioengineering, and pharmacology to develop novel, safe therapeutics and advanced diagnostics for clinical use and innovative drug delivery systems.

FIND OUT MORE →



CENTRE FOR APPLIED PHARMACOKINETIC RESEARCH (CAPKR):

Studies drug metabolism, genetics, lifestyle, and disease to improve precision medicine and optimise drug use.

FIND OUT MORE →

CENTRE FOR PHARMACO-EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DRUG SAFETY (CPDS)

Focuses on drug safety, effectiveness, policy, risk management, and epidemiological methods.

FIND OUT MORE →



SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION: RECENT NEWS

In addition to these leading groups, our researchers are making significant strides across pharmacy and beyond. Take a closer look at some recent and exciting news of work carried out by The University of Manchester:



INVESTIGATING PHARMACY TRAINING IN PRACTICE

Researchers at The University of Manchester assessed the real-world impact of training funded by the Pharmacy Integration Fund (PhIF). A 2020 survey of 383 learners found that while skills improved across pathways, community pharmacists lacked employer support to implement changes. The pandemic further hindered practice transformation. Despite these challenges, the findings underscore PhIF’s role in enhancing clinical pharmacy capacity and highlight the need for systemic changes to unlock the full potential of pharmacy professionals, particularly in community settings.

DIABETES DRUGS AND CARDIOVASCULAR BENEFITS

A study from Manchester linked SGLT2 inhibitors and GLP-1RAs to reduced heart failure and cardiovascular risks in type 2 diabetes patients without established heart disease. The drugs lowered heart failure risk by up to 57% and stroke or heart attack risk by up to 30%. These findings suggest significant potential for broader use, especially in lower-risk patients, and underscore their long-term cost-effectiveness by preventing costly complications.



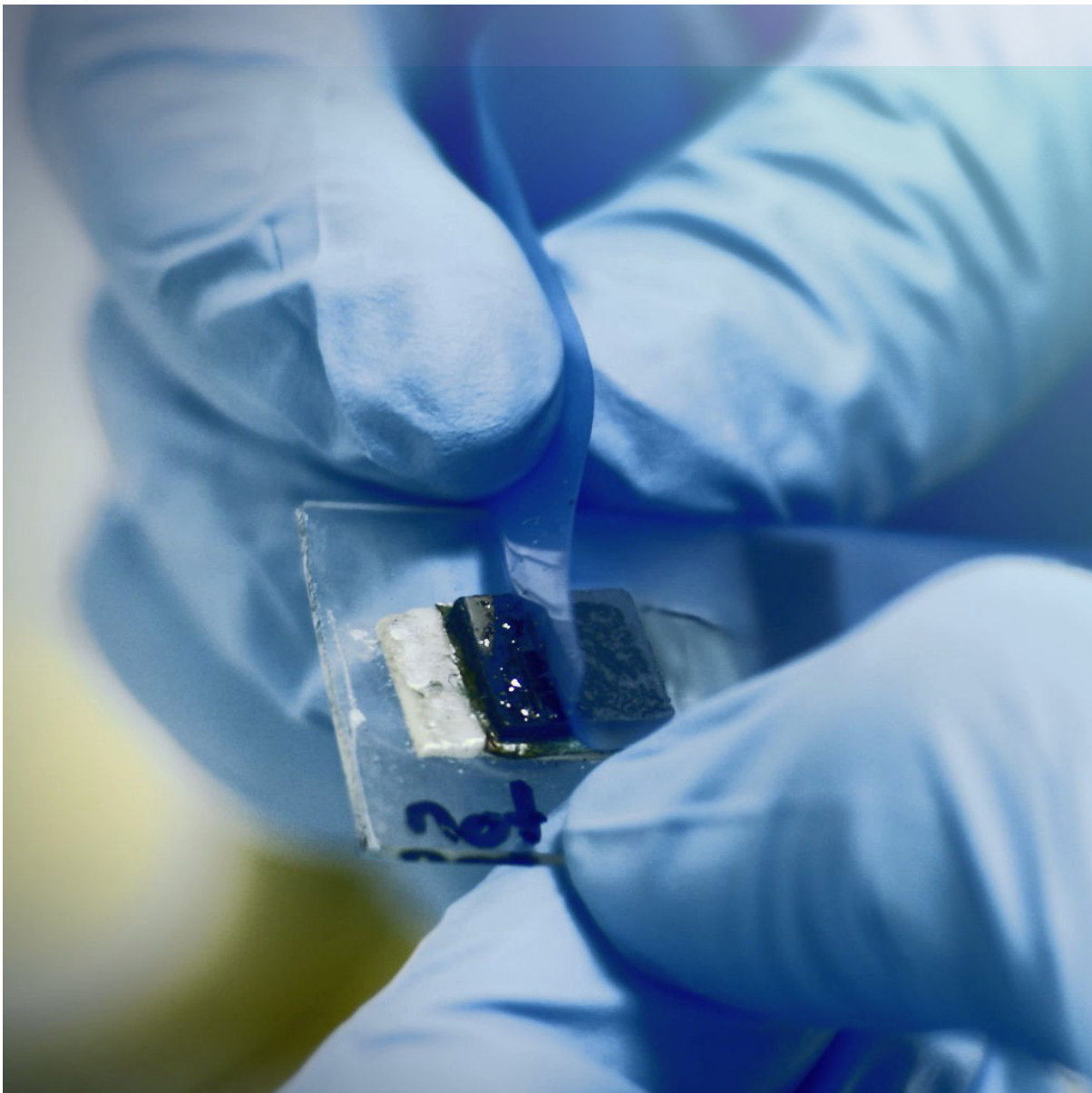


OPIOID TREATMENT AND OVERDOSE RISKS

Manchester researchers found that opioid use disorder patients on methadone or buprenorphine face higher overdose risks when also prescribed mental health or pain medications like benzodiazepines or gabapentinoids. No increased risk was observed with antidepressants. The study highlights the need for safer prescribing and better collaboration between GPs and mental health teams to improve outcomes for this vulnerable group.

GRAPHENE REVOLUTION IN HEALTHCARE

The University of Manchester is pioneering graphene-based drug delivery systems for targeted cancer therapies and other biomedical applications. This research promises to improve treatments by targeting diseased cells while sparing healthy ones. Led by the Nanomedicine Lab, the work integrates pharmacology, bioengineering, and nanotechnology, accelerating the development of innovative, clinically viable therapies for critical health challenges.



WHAT IS IT LIKE STUDYING A POSTGRAD COURSE AT MANCHESTER?

Our postgraduate courses are carefully designed to help you update your skills as a professional or kick-start your career research. Hear from some of our students about their experience of postgrad pharmacy.

STEPHEN BISHOP
MSc in Pharmaceutical
Technology and
Quality Assurance

"The mix of people on the course must be one of the highlights: technicians, pharmacists, and scientists from all types of backgrounds. The teaching is also great; all the lecturers are experts in their field, and many are still active practitioners. There aren't enough words to detail how the course has helped me in my current role because I must use something from it daily."

"The content has increased and broadened, and in some cases refreshed, my knowledge of the principles and the modelling element. The course provided the hands-on experience I was looking for and fulfilled all my expectations. From my perspective the content remains highly relevant to industry and beneficial for those with a variety of experience, perfect either as a career platform or for a change of direction into modelling."

SIMON TAYLOR
MSc in Model Based
Drug Development



FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

We host a wide range of cutting-edge labs. While access to specific equipment may vary depending on your course, there will be exciting opportunities to engage with advanced research facilities during your time at The University of Manchester.

Our extensive facilities include advanced MRI and PET imaging, mass spectrometry, bioimaging, and genome editing technologies, supported by the University's innovative technology platforms. The University utilises leading data analysis tools, such as R, Phoenix, NONMEM, and Simcyp, enhancing our research and practice capabilities. We also have excellent links with local NHS hospitals, specialist pharmacists and industry partners.

To elevate your learning experience, our Flexible Skills Suite (FSS) offers an adaptable learning environment, transforming from a lecture theatre to a group-work space or even a simulated ward. This versatility

supports the diverse range of learning styles and topics in programmes like Independent Prescribing, enhancing practical workshops.

Our campus will help you get the most out of your studies. The University of Manchester Library is one of only five national research libraries. You can also access the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons 24/7 for flexible study spaces and the latest in learning technology.

Distance learners benefit from many resources, including virtual access to recorded lectures, webinars, discussion forums, and extensive learning materials.



WHERE WILL PHARMACY TAKE YOU?

At Manchester, a postgraduate master's degree in pharmacy, whether taught or research-based, opens doors to an extensive number of career paths.

The University's reputation for research excellence in pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences means that students have access to robust networks in both the academic and industrial spheres.

We also have strong links with our graduates, who often go on to pursue roles in clinical practice, research, academia, and industry. Below are some examples:

EMPLOYMENT SECTORS AND ROLES:

- > **Clinical and healthcare roles:**
Independent Prescribers, Clinical Pharmacists, Pharmacy Managers, Independent Prescribers.
- > **Pharmaceutical industry roles:**
Research Scientists, Quality Assurance Specialists, Regulatory Affairs Specialists, Medical Science Liaisons.
- > **Academic and research roles:**
Postdoctoral Researchers, Lecturers, Epidemiologists, Biostatisticians.
- > **Public health and policy roles:**
Health Policy Advisors, Health Technology Assessment Consultants.

RECRUITERS:

- > **Hospital trusts and healthcare organisations:** Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, Bupa, Spire Healthcare.
- > **Pharmaceutical companies:**
AstraZeneca, Pfizer, Novartis, Biotech companies focusing on nanomedicine or drug delivery technologies.
- > **Academic and research institutions:**
The University of Manchester, Manchester Institute of Biotechnology (MIB), National Institute for Health, and Care Research (NIHR), Cancer Research UK (CRUK).
- > **Public sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs):** World Health Organisation (WHO), Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), Public Health England (PHE).
- > **Consulting firms and contract research organisations (CROs):**
IQVIA, Parexel, Syneos Health.



COURSES

MASTER'S COURSES

- > [Model-Based Drug Development](#) (MSc)
- > [Nanomedicine](#) (MSc by Research)
- > [Pharmaceutical Technology and Quality Assurance](#) (PTQA) (MSc)

PHD WITH INTEGRATED MASTER'S

If you're planning to undertake a PhD after your master's, our Integrated PhD programme will enable you to combine this postgraduate taught course with a related PhD project. Learn more about the [Integrated PhD programme](#).

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Develop your skills in pharmacy through our continuing professional development CPD courses. Our CPD course units and workshops draw on the expertise of some of the UK's most respected academics, clinicians, and health professionals.

[Independent Prescribing](#) (short CPD course)

[Model-based Drug Development](#) (CPD units)

Learn more on our [Pharmacy CPD courses](#) webpage.

PHARMACY AT MANCHESTER



CONTACT US

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DISCLAIMER

This prospectus was produced in December 2024 for the purpose of the 2025 intake. It has therefore been produced in advance of course starting dates. As such, for a number of reasons, course information, including, for example, details of course content, unit availability and/or published term dates, may be amended either prior to or after you apply for a place on a course.

All information relating to tuition fees and funding is correct at the time of publication. However, this may change for a number of reasons, including if there is a change to government policy.