3.2 Curriculum Information (MD Programme)

MD Programme

The Doctor of Medicine (MD) programme at Duke-NUS is a 4-year course comprising of the following phases: pre-clerkship, clerkship, research and advanced clinical.

The programme begins with the pre-clerkship curriculum, introducing students to basic sciences and the fundamentals of patient care. Courses cover the basic science content fundamental to clinical core, including: biochemistry, genetics, cell biology, microanatomy, anatomy, physiology, neurobiology, behavioural sciences, pharmacology, microbiology, pathology and immunology. The pre-clerkship curriculum is covered in one year.

In their second year, students go through a series of clerkship rotations, gaining broad exposure to core specialties such as Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Neurology, Psychiatry, Surgery and Medicine. Students are required to complete 5 blocks of 8-week clerkship rotations.

The research and advanced clinical phases span the third and fourth years of the MD programme.

Students spend approximately 8 months on scholarly research activities. They get to select a research area of their interest and carry out a research or scholarship project in that area under the supervision of a research mentor. At the end of the research experience, they are required to submit a thesis based on their research or scholarship project. Students may carry out their research or scholarship locally or at our affiliated institution, Duke University.

The advanced clinical rotations in the final two years of the MD programme provides students with opportunities to participate in patient care with increased responsibilities. Besides core specialties such as Emergency Medicine, Surgery, Medicine, Musculoskeletal and Critical Care, students are also given elective time to explore areas based on their career interest.

Below is a more detailed breakdown of our MD curriculum.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>• C.A.R.E 1: Joining the Medical Profession</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Molecules, Cells &amp; Tissues</td>
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<td>• Human Structure &amp; Function</td>
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<td>• Brain &amp; Behaviour</td>
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<td>• Body &amp; Disease</td>
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<td>• Fundamentals of Clinical Practice</td>
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<td>Other Year 1 modules since 2007:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Investigative Methods &amp; Tools</td>
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<td>• Evidence Based Medicine</td>
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<td>• Normal Body</td>
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<td>• Practice Course 1</td>
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<td>• Foundations Course</td>
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<td>Year 2</td>
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| - C.A.R.E 2: Learning From & For Patients  
- Medicine Clerkship  
- Surgery Clerkship  
- Paediatrics Clerkship  
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology Clerkship  
- Neurology Clerkship  
- Psychiatry Clerkship  
- Geriatrics Medicine  
- Fundamentals of Family Medicine  
- Fundamentals of Research and Scholarship  
- Innovation & Design Thinking  
Other Year 2 modules since 2008:  
- Integrated Anaesthesia Programme  
- Anaesthesiology Programme  
- Clinical Core 1 to 5  
- Cardiology Programme  
- Radiology Programme  
- Musculoskeletal Year 2 Programme  
- Clinical Reflections  
- Geriatric Medicine/Medical Oncology/Palliative Care  
- Oncology, Geriatric Medicine & Palliative Care Programme  
- Geriatrics & Nutrition  
- Clinical Oncology  
- Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship  
- Orientation to Clinical Year  
- Practice Course 2  | - Research/Scholarship (Part 1)  
- Research/Scholarship (Part 2)  
- Research/Scholarship Thesis  
Other Research modules since 2009:  
- Orientation to Research Year  
- Research Methods and Analysis  
- IRB Modules |
| Year 3 and 4 (Advanced Clinical) | • Advanced Medicine  
• Advanced Surgery  
• Musculoskeletal Rotation  
• Critical Care Rotation  
• Emergency Medicine  
• Family Medicine Clerkship  
• Student-In-Practice (Medicine)  
• Student-In-Practice (Surgery)  
• Practice Course 3  
• Capstone Course  
• Student as Future Educator  
Other Advanced Clinical modules since 2010:  
• Practice Course 4  
• Independent Study  
• Advanced Clinical Practice |