



# Clinicians First Clinicians Plus

At Duke-NUS, we strive to nurture leaders who have the curiosity and drive to push boundaries in solving real-world problems, chart new territory and influence change. Our unique Clinicians First, Clinicians Plus approach to medical education prepares you to not only practise medicine, but to also improve the practice of medicine to improve lives.

# Message From Our Vice Dean



As I reflect on Duke-NUS' short and pioneering history, I am heartened by the remarkable achievements of our students and faculty. They have championed innovations across clinical service, education and research.

Since the very beginning, we've held firm to the belief that Singapore needs a new breed of clinicians who can not only care for patients, but also solve some of the pressing problems facing our healthcare system today. In the light of increasing expectations, an ageing population and rising healthcare costs, traditional solutions are no longer enough to meet new or emerging healthcare challenges.

At Duke-NUS, we equip our graduates with critical and creative thinking skills expected of clinicians in the future, so that they are able to ask the right questions, push boundaries and discover ways to meet these challenges.

We welcome students with unique strengths from varied academic and personal backgrounds, and nurture this diversity to give our students the opportunity to transform medicine and improve lives. As a Duke-NUS student, you will gain strong research, leadership and teamwork skills that will allow you to proficiently practise medicine and improve and transform the practice of medicine – not only for your future patients, but also for the healthcare system as a whole.

I invite you to find out more about us and learn how we, as a pioneering and innovative medical school, can help shape your future and ensure that you will have the necessary skills and capabilities that will enable you to transform lives and truly make a difference.

## Professor Ian Curran

MBBS, BSc, AKC, FRCA, Pg Dip Med Ed, FFPMRCA, FAcadMEd, FSSH, FRCP Edin, FAMS, FRCP, FAOrthoA | Vice Dean, Education | Duke-NUS Medical School

# Our Story

Duke-NUS Medical School is a landmark collaboration established in 2005 between Duke University in the U.S. and the National University of Singapore. It is Singapore's first and only US-style graduate medical school offering a robust medical education that aims to nurture outstanding medical doctors and future clinician leaders to contribute to the future healthcare needs of Singapore.

Duke-NUS' unique medical education curriculum is based on Duke University School of Medicine's curriculum adapted for the local Singapore landscape. Duke-NUS boasts scientists at the forefront of their fields, with leading research experience and capabilities. These opportunities allow our students to learn alongside distinguished scientists and explore research and theories that can impact the way diseases are identified and treated.

The school shares a partnership with Singapore Health Services (SingHealth), the largest medical cluster in Singapore, which delivers multi-disciplinary care among 42 clinical specialties across a large network of hospitals, national specialty centres and polyclinics. This allows students to be better trained by being exposed to cutting-edge clinical experience and patient care. This partnership not only better equips them as future practitioners, leaders and healthcare innovators, but also allows Duke-NUS to be positioned to transform medicine and improve lives across Singapore with its integrated expertise in clinical care, education and research.



# Clinicians First, Clinicians Plus

The healthcare challenges faced today demand creative, innovative and entrepreneurial solutions. Delivering quality healthcare is no longer confined to treating diseases. It must embrace disease prevention and health promotion, and integrate effective healthcare leadership, administration, research and education.

The Duke-NUS MD programme is built around a pioneering Clinicians First, Clinicians Plus vision. It stems from our belief that graduates should be competent clinicians first, and beyond that, build on their other capabilities to become clinician scientists, innovators, educators and leaders to value-add to the Singapore healthcare system.

Duke-NUS welcomes students from diverse pathways and academic disciplines, who bring different expertise and perspectives to the medical profession. At Duke-NUS, we believe such diversity in our students is our strength. It promotes robust brainstorming, encourages critical thinking and helps develop key skills expected of future clinicians. Our graduates are curious, progressive and innovative. They are able to challenge paradigms to achieve the best possible care for our patients and contribute to the improvement of the healthcare sector.



“ I joined Duke-NUS in 2007 with a degree in biomedical engineering, and started my residency in general surgery upon graduation. Given my background as an engineer-trained surgical resident, I've always been interested in medical technology and medical devices and believe with the right innovation, one can really impact the lives of millions of people.

In 2014, I took a year off from residency to participate in a medtech innovation fellowship as part of a multidisciplinary team with Singapore-Stanford Biodesign aimed at developing medical devices and technology for unmet clinical needs. This experience led me to co-founding Privi Medical, a medical start-up that has developed a simple home-based solution for haemorrhoid sufferers worldwide, and Jaga-Me, an app and online platform that provides on-demand quality nursing services to patients in the comfort of their home.

These innovations help improve patient care, of which I am a firm believer. In everything I do, whether innovating new devices or being involved in medical surgery, my goal is always to improve the patient's outcome. Duke-NUS has enabled me to pursue my twin interests of medicine and medical technology and helped move me beyond just a clinician to a surgeon-innovator.

**Dr. Rena Dharmawan**

General Surgery Senior Resident at SingHealth, and a graduate of the inaugural batch of medical students at Duke-NUS | Co-founder of Privi Medical | Founding team, Jaga-Me



# A Unique Curriculum

Our Clinicians First, Clinicians Plus approach to medical training ensures that the Duke-NUS curriculum trains our students with rigour and prepares them to be clinicians capable of becoming future leaders, educators, innovators, scholars and scientists in healthcare, to serve the needs of Singapore and beyond with compassion and excellence.

## A Supportive and Well-Rounded Learning Environment through C.A.R.E.

C.A.R.E. (Connect, Assimilate, Reflect, Explore) is an integrated programme that takes place throughout the 4-year MD programme. These blocks, carried out between core curriculum modules, serve to support your personal and professional development by connecting you with senior clinical faculty, helping you assimilate knowledge through learning activities, encouraging reflective practice for professional identity formation, and facilitating the exploration of healthcare priority areas.

## Opportunities to Pursue Research and Scholarship

The mentored research and scholarship experience is an individualised development programme tailored to each student's career and academic aspirations. You'll begin planning a project in Year 1, refine it in Year 2, and implement it in Year 3, in which you will be given dedicated time to immerse yourself in your scholarly pursuits. The programme will culminate in a critical reflection of your experience in Year 4.

## Exposure to Innovation and Design Thinking

You will participate in an Innovation and Design Thinking module that will include a hackathon designed to introduce you to the principles of innovation and design thinking. The hackathon is an opportunity to work in collaborative teams to develop solutions to vexing healthcare problems.



“” At Duke-NUS, I've come to realise that, beyond being a good clinician, there are many other ways that you can contribute to being a good doctor. The school provides many opportunities to further your interest, whether in research, or in the role of an educator, nurturing your juniors to become better clinicians.

**Candy Tan**

MD Student, Class of 2021  
B.Acc, Nanyang Technological University



For further details on the curriculum, visit  
[www.duke-nus.edu.sg/education/md-programme](http://www.duke-nus.edu.sg/education/md-programme)

# Enriching Campus Life

Students can enjoy a wide range of activities that enhance their academic experience. These activities foster a sense of community and cultivate personal growth.

## College System

There are four advisory colleges at Duke-NUS that offer support for students' professional and personal growth. These colleges provide mentorship, peer support and opportunities for community service. This environment enables students to better cope with the challenges of medical training and develop social skills and values.



## Student Interest Groups

Duke-NUS student interest groups, from academic to cultural, are initiated and developed by students themselves. These groups provide an additional outlet for students to channel their energy and pursue their passion.



## Community Service

At Duke-NUS, we encourage active participation in community service projects, so as to foster values such as empathy, leadership and teamwork. Student groups and colleges offer a range of worthy projects in which students can invest their time and efforts.



## Student Wellness

To help students cope with the rigour of a demanding academic programme, Duke-NUS offers extensive support for students' personal wellness through activities such as exercise classes on campus, mindfulness workshops and referral resources.

# Financial Support

We understand the challenge of financing a medical education, and strive to help our students tap on available resources to meet financial needs. Depending on financial circumstances, as well as academic performance, students may take up one or a combination of three financing options available – tuition fee loan, bursary, and merit scholarship.

## Tuition Fee Loan

Matriculating students of all nationalities may apply for the Tuition Fee Loan (TFL), administered by two Singapore agent banks, which can be taken in various amounts up to a maximum amount that is equal to 90% of tuition fees payable by Singapore Citizens. About three-quarters of our Doctor of Medicine (MD) students have taken up the TFL.

## Bursary

Bursaries are awarded based on financial need. In recent years, over 50% of our MD students have been awarded bursaries of varying amounts. Bursaries for incoming students are expected to fall between 13% and 71% of tuition fees payable. Duke-NUS bursaries do not impose an additional service commitment (bond).

## Merit Scholarship

Merit scholarships are generally awarded based on academic achievement and personal attributes such as meaningful involvement in community service or leadership experiences.

Scholarships	Quantum (S\$)	Singapore Citizen	SPR	International	Merit-based	Needs-based
Shaw Foundation Scholarship	10,000 – 50,000	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Lee Foundation Scholarship	20,000 (one-off)	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Goh Foundation Scholarship	20,000	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Duke-NUS Dean's Scholarship	Up to 80,000	▲	▲		▲	
Duke-NUS Scholarship	Up to 80,000 (one-off)	▲	▲		▲	
Ngee Ann Kongsi Scholars Programme	10,000 – 50,000	▲	▲		▲	
Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple Scholarship	10,000 – 50,000	▲			▲	▲
Indonesian Scholars Programme	10,000 – 50,000	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲

All MD-PhD students will receive the MD-PhD Tuition Support Scholarship.

## Service Commitment

As tuition fees at Duke-NUS have been subsidised by the Singapore government, all Duke-NUS MD and MD-PhD graduates have to complete a service commitment as follows:

- ▶ Singapore citizens: four years
- ▶ International graduates and Singapore Permanent Residents: five years

The service commitment period begins after the completion of the first year of training upon graduation.

For the latest information:  
Visit [www.duke-nus.edu.sg/admissions/tuition-fees-scholarships-financial-aid](http://www.duke-nus.edu.sg/admissions/tuition-fees-scholarships-financial-aid)  
Email [financialaid@duke-nus.edu.sg](mailto:financialaid@duke-nus.edu.sg)

# Medical School Preparation

Keen to apply but want a little more insight before you decide? We offer a number of programmes to help you make an informed decision on pursuing a medical degree at Duke-NUS.

## The Duke-NUS Pre-Med Course (GMS1000)

Taught using a team-based learning approach, this course covers topics in medical research and provides you with the foundational knowledge, skills and attitudes to help you excel in your clinician and scientist training.

## Prehealth Experiential Programme (PrEP)

A summer workshop designed to provide insights into graduate entry medicine, roles of medical professionals and medical practice in Singapore.

## Duke-NUS Alumni Clinical Observership (DACO)

A shadowing programme that pairs participants with a practising doctor who is a Duke-NUS alumnus to provide insights into the profession.



## Pre-MD Pathways

To meet evolving clinical needs of Singapore, Duke-NUS Medical School aims to develop pioneering clinicians who are not only skilled in clinical practice, but also possess the capabilities to transform medicine and improve lives. Differentiating themselves with diverse insights and skillsets, our graduates will serve patients by delivering care and pioneering improvements in the medical practice through their passion in science, leadership, innovation and teaching.

We invite all talented pre-university students, with the heart to serve patients, to enrol into any of the special tracks with our leading partners before continuing their medical education with Duke-NUS.

For more details, visit [www.duke-nus.edu.sg/admissions/pre-university](http://www.duke-nus.edu.sg/admissions/pre-university)

For more details, visit [www.duke-nus.edu.sg/admissions/preparing-medical-school](http://www.duke-nus.edu.sg/admissions/preparing-medical-school)

# Holistic Admissions Process

In keeping with our School's mission, and our Academic Medicine partnership with SingHealth, our ambition is to make significant contributions to improving the practice of medicine in Singapore and beyond. If you have the ambition to make a difference, we encourage you to apply for the Duke-NUS MD programme and contribute to realising our vision.

## Pre-requisites

### MD and MD-PhD Track

- ▶ Bachelor's degree in any discipline
- ▶ Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) or Graduate Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT) score
- ▶ Volunteering and research experiences are looked upon favourably

## How to Apply

Applications to Duke-NUS programmes open in June preceding the year of intake.

- ▶ Deadline for early application – 1 September
- ▶ Final deadline – 1 January in the year of intake

To apply, candidates must submit the following:

- ▶ An online application, including written essays, at <https://myportal.duke-nus.edu.sg/admissions>
- ▶ Three to five recommendation letters (typically from professors, mentors and/or employers)
- ▶ Official transcripts from Bachelor's (and higher, if applicable) degree programme(s)
- ▶ World Education Services (WES) report, where required

## MD-PhD Track

Duke-NUS offers a combined MD-PhD track to students who wish to further their academic training. The programme combines medical education with research training to develop clinician-scientists who interface between medicine and science. Students admitted into the programme will be offered a full scholarship for the PhD component, as well as scholarships to cover tuition fees for their first two years in the MD programme and their final year of MD training. Interested students can either apply directly to the MD-PhD programme at the time of initial application or after matriculation into the MD programme.



Visit [www.duke-nus.edu.sg/education/md-phd-programme](http://www.duke-nus.edu.sg/education/md-phd-programme) for more details on the MD-PhD track

# A Learning Environment Rich in Culture and Academic Disciplines



**DIVERSE**  
MD student  
population  
hailing from **28 COUNTRIES.**



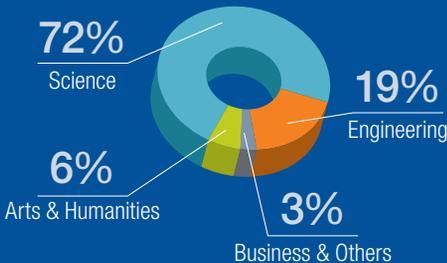
**OVER**  
**600**  
**STUDENTS**  
admitted  
since 2007



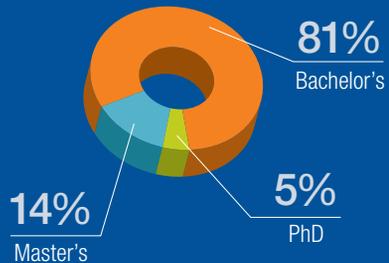
**44%** of MD  
students  
were working  
before they started medical  
training at Duke-NUS.

## MD STUDENTS

Academic Background



Highest Qualification



More than **1,000 faculty** involved in research, education and patient care.



Over **80 research collaborations and partnerships** with various institutions and organisations.



Over **2,000 papers** published by our faculty in peer-reviewed journals.