MSc
CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

The MSc in Clinical and Translational Research aims to train the next generation of investigators who will lead cutting edge clinical research into the future. We value high quality clinical research as the means to ensure novel interventions are developed to improve patients’ lives. We deliver our programme through a blend of on-line learning followed by time in an active Clinical Research Centre, thereby ensuring students are taught by and gain experience alongside expert staff and internationally renowned investigators. A comprehensive programme of hands on practical experience is a core element of the course, complementing online and classroom based learning. Student assessment is focused on evaluating practical as well as theoretical skills and knowledge. This unique learning environment exposes students to high quality clinical research.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE?
This programme is designed for science graduates, medical doctors, nurses, pharmacists and others with an interest in developing careers in clinical investigation.

AFTER GRADUATION
Upon completion of this course you will be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to pursue a career in clinical research. Recent graduates have found employment in the Pharmaceutical, Clinical Research and academic sectors.

FEATURES
- Equips participants with the knowledge, skills and competencies to allow them to complete programmes of clinical investigation and translational research.
- Develops core research competencies and clinical and translational research principles.
- Instructs students in the principles and practice of clinical trials, the development of novel technologies, and critical appraisal skills.
- Afford participants the opportunity to spend time with the research teams in the UCD Clinical Research Centre to observe clinical trials in action. (A 30 credit research project is included in this programme).
- Include input from industry partners and opportunities for industry interaction. Here you will gain an understanding of clinical research in companies from the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and clinical research industry.
- Positions graduates to progress with a research career
- Based at the UCD Clinical Research Centre

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HOW WILL I LEARN?

You will be based at the UCD Clinical Research Centre, Ireland’s leading centre for patient focused clinical and translational research, situated at St Vincent’s and Mater Misericordiae University Hospitals. You will undertake modules that will give you important skills in research, which you can use to develop your own research activities.

To complete the UCD MSc in Clinical & Translational Research you will:

» Earn 90 ECTS credits
» Successfully pass all assessments and examinations
» Complete a research project and thesis

You will complete modules in:

» Clinical Protocol Development
» Clinical Trials
» Data Management & Biostatistics
» Laboratory Medicine
» Clinical Trial Management
» Clinical & Translational Research
» Research project & thesis

Throughout the programme you will gain significant practical experience and real world understanding of clinical research in action. This includes:

» You will develop a clinical trial protocol and gain experience in critically appraising clinical research.
» You will build a database for a clinical trial
» You will be trained in data analysis using SPSS
» you will complete an internship at the UCD Clinical Research Centre
» You will complete sample processing and analysis laboratory practicals

LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the MSc in Clinical and Translational Research students will be able to:

» APPLY their knowledge at the leading edge of patient focused clinical research
» DESIGN methodologically robust and statistically valid clinical research protocols
» LEAD programmes of clinical research that comply with the highest national and international legal, regulatory and scientific standards.
» APPRAISE, evaluate and enhance clinical research protocols, ensuring the highest quality research outputs
» UNDERSTAND clinical trial regulations and appreciate the importance, practical use and evolution of these regulations.
» POSSESS excellent communication and presentation skills, appropriate to the multidisciplinary clinical research environment
» COLLABORATE with patients, academic partners and industry to complete clinical research programmes
» COMMIT to continuous lifelong learning and further diffusion of their clinical research expertise

ENTRY CRITERIA

» Applicants must possess a level 8 degree or equivalent in any relevant discipline
» Applicants will be assessed for entry to the programme based on undergraduate performance and final degree award
» Applicants may be asked to participate in an Interview
» Subject to availability, consideration will be given to graduates of non-science degrees who have subsequent postgraduate experience

“...I gained a great amount of theoretical knowledge about clinical trials, statistical and data management which is really useful to us as medical students. What’s more, we developed a new way of thinking. As future doctors, we can integrate research and clinical work which means that we can design a relevant clinical trial when we come across some critical problems in the future.”

Student Feedback 2015