

Pharmacy education & training in

# Cyprus

2012

PHARMINE (PHARMacy education IN Europe) is a project funded by the European Commission (LLL programme, Erasmus). Its aims and objectives are to survey the present state of pharmacy education and training in Europe, and on the basis of this survey, formulate recommendations for new competence curricula for pharmacy education and training in the EU. A model for pharmacy education and training for candidate member states and other countries will be proposed. The opportunities for a quality assurance and accreditation scheme for EU pharmacy courses will be investigated.

PHARMINE will take into account two important issues, (i) the EU directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and, (ii) the Bologna declaration. PHARMINE will focus both on recommendations for core education and training and for activities such as industrial and hospital pharmacy.

The PHARMINE consortium consists of universities which are members of the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy (EAFP) and EU partner associations representing community, hospital or industrial pharmacy, together with the European Pharmacy Students' Association and other interested bodies.

In order to reach the objectives of the PHARMINE project, a work-plan was set up and divided into 7 work-packages (WP).

The aims and objectives of PHARMINE WP7 are to:

1. Survey European higher education institutions (HEIs)
2. Produce a databank of pharmacy education and training courses in Europe leading to core pharmacist qualifications and to qualifications required for industrial and hospital pharmacy
3. Survey to what extent the "Bologna" (based on the principles enumerated in the Bologna declaration) and the "Sectoral profession" (based on 2005/36/EC) models for pharmacy education and training are compatible.

PHARMINE WP7 will produce several documents including a WP7 survey by country. **Such surveys are intended for the use of students and staff interested in mobility and/or contacts with the country in questions as well as educationalists working on pharmacy education and training in Europe.**

(see:

<http://enzu.pharmine.org/media/filebook/files/PHARMINE%20WP7%20survey%20of%20European%20HEIs%200309.pdf>

The “PHARMINE survey of European higher education institutions delivering pharmacy education & training – CYPRUS” was produced by:

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## Summary.

Cyprus at the moment has no pharmacy school in a public university. One such school in public University (Cyprus University of Technology) is under development.

Since 2011 a pharmacy program is delivered in a private University.

Up to now pharmacy education must be undertaken abroad, mainly in Greece or in the UK. About 15 positions are offered annually by the Greek Universities to Cypriot students willing to study pharmacy. These students are accepted after success at the National Exams. They are required to have studied Chemistry and Biology during their higher education.

Every year 15-20 Cypriot pharmacists are registered with the Pharmacy Board (the competent authority for registering pharmacists and pharmacies in Cyprus).

Given the nature of the registration system in Cyprus about 120 Greek pharmacists prefer to register in Cyprus and then return to practice their profession in Greece.

The Pharmacists Law determines education requirements. It requires community pharmacists to register and to become members of the professional association. Furthermore, the Law sets restrictions on ownership, business form and changes in ownership; and it requires the presence of a pharmacist at all times.

## Introduction.

Total population :	871,000
Gross national income per capita (PPP international \$):	24,980
Life expectancy at birth m/f (years):	78/83
Probability of dying under five (per 1 000 live births):	3
Probability of dying between 15 and 60 years m/f (per 1 000 population):	81/41
Total expenditure on health per capita (Intl \$, 2009):	1,825
Total expenditure on health as % of GDP (2009):	6.0

Figures are for 2009 unless indicated. Source: Global Health Observatory

<http://www.who.int/gho/countries/cyp/en/>

WHO Highlights on health in Cyprus, 2005:

[www.euro.who.int/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/103845/E88526.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/103845/E88526.pdf)

WHO Cyprus health care systems in transition

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The Health Systems in Transition (HiT) series provide detailed descriptions of health systems in the countries of the WHO European Region as well as some additional OECD countries. An individual health system review (HiT) examines the specific approach to the organization, financing and delivery of health services in a particular country and the role of the main actors in the health system. It describes the institutional framework, process, content, and implementation of health and health care policies. HiTs also look at reforms in progress or under development and make an assessment of the health system based on stated objectives and outcomes with respect to various dimensions (health status, equity, quality, efficiency, accountability).

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/>

##### See also

## Chapter 1. Organization of the activities of pharmacists, professional bodies

	Y/N, number or %	Comments
<b>Community pharmacy</b>		
Number of community pharmacists	500	1,742 people / pharmacist
Community pharmacies	470	1,853 people / pharmacy 1,05 pharmacists / pharmacy
Competences and roles of pharmacists		Standard dispensing of prescribed and OTC drugs. Role in activities such as hypertension and diabetes monitoring?
Ownership of a pharmacy limited to pharmacists?	Yes	Ownership of a pharmacy is restricted to pharmacists only, and is there are limits on the number of branches or a limited number of branches in which the owner may hold a majority stake
Rules governing the distribution of pharmacies?	No	A licence from the Pharmacy Board is required to open a pharmacy.
Are drugs available to the public by other channels?	Yes	Public Hospitals dispense drugs to the persons eligible to (almost) free medical care
Persons other than pharmacists involved in practice?	No	The presence of a pharmacist at all time is required.
Their titles and number(s)		In most pharmacies there are some assistants, but there are not any training requirements
<b>Hospital pharmacy</b>		
Number of hospital pharmacists	125	No special training beyond their practice
Hospital pharmacies	52	This number includes the hospital pharmacies as well the primary health care centres (mainly rural) and pharmacies in specialised health care providers such as Neurology and Genetics Centre, and Oncology Centre
Competences and roles of hospital pharmacists		Competences : Registered Pharmacists Roles : Dispensing, handling of sterile products, medical devices and disposables, preparation of special preparations, etc
<b>Pharmaceutical and related industries</b>		
Companies: production, R&D and distribution	76	This number does not include the Marketing Authorisation Holders. No R&D company is established in Cyprus
Production only	6	
Distribution only	70	
Generic drugs only	6	
<b>Industrial pharmacy</b>		
Pharmacists in industry		Exact number is not known
Competences and roles of industrial pharmacists		Competences :Registered Pharmacists
<b>Other sectors</b>		
Pharmacists in other sectors	50	
Sectors in which pharmacists are employed		Public: Regulatory, Pricing and Reimbursement, Audis, Public Health Care Insurance providers

Competences and roles of pharmacists in other sectors		Competences : Registered Pharmacists
<b>Roles of professional associations</b>		
Registration of pharmacists	Yes	<p>The Pharmaceutical Association participates to the Pharmacy Board. Four out of seven members of the Board are appointed by the Association</p> <p>Requirements for licensing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One year of pharmacy practice</li> <li>• Success at the Pharmacy Board's Examination of Forensic Pharmacy</li> </ul> <p>Preregistration practice can be performed in any EU Country as long as it is approved and validated by the national competent authority of the origin country.</p> <p>Examination in the legislation (Forensic Pharmacy) after completion of the study period. Exam can be undertaken before the completion of the pre-registration practice period, but registration is done just after the completion of the one year.</p>

<b>Websites</b>	
Pharmaceutical Services	<a href="http://www.moh.gov.cy/phs">http://www.moh.gov.cy/phs</a>
Ministry of Health	<a href="http://www.moh.gov.cy/">http://www.moh.gov.cy/</a>
Ministry of Education	<a href="http://www.moec.gov.cy">http://www.moec.gov.cy</a>

## Chapter 2. Pharmacy HEIs, students and courses

	Y/N, number or %	If you wish to expand your answer, please add your comments below.
HEIs in Cyprus: private	1	There is only one pharmacy program offered in Cyprus, at the University of Nicosia (private). This program is franchised from the University of Hertfordshire (UK). Frederick University (private) has applied for a school of pharmacy. Application is pending at the moment
Public	1	Cyprus University of Technology plans to establish a School of Pharmacy before 2015. The Cyprus University of Technology was founded by law on December 2003 and welcomed its first students on September 2007. The Cyprus University of Technology is based in the city of Limassol, where four out of five faculties are located. The Faculty of Health Sciences is located in Nicosia.

Websites	
Cyprus University of Technology	<a href="http://www.cut.ac.cy">http://www.cut.ac.cy</a> In English: <a href="http://www.cut.ac.cy/university/vision/">http://www.cut.ac.cy/university/vision/</a>
University of Nicosia	<a href="http://www.unic.ac.cy">http://www.unic.ac.cy</a>



### **Chapter 3. Teaching and learning methods**

The curriculum of the University of Nicosia M.Pharm program is identical to that of the University of Hertfordshire, UK. The first and the fourth year of studies are run in Cyprus and the second and the third in the UK.

[http://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/subjects/pharmacy\\_and\\_pharmaceutical\\_science/undergraduate.cfm](http://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/subjects/pharmacy_and_pharmaceutical_science/undergraduate.cfm).

After graduation students should have one year of pre-registration practice in order to satisfy the Cypriot national legislation as well the Directive 2005/36

### **Chapter 4. Subject areas**

Course details at:

[http://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/Pharmacy\\_structure.cfm](http://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/Pharmacy_structure.cfm)

### **Chapter 5. Impact of the Bologna principles**

Course details at:

[http://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/Pharmacy\\_structure.cfm](http://www.herts.ac.uk/courses/Pharmacy_structure.cfm)

## Chapter 6. Impact of EC directive 2005/36/EC

The directive states	How does / will this directive statement affect pharmacy E&T?
“Evidence of formal qualifications as a pharmacist shall attest to training of at least <u>five years' duration...</u> ”	This applies.
“ <u>...four years of full-time theoretical and practical training at a university or at a higher institute of a level recognised as equivalent, or under the supervision of a university;</u> ”	Applies
“ <u>...six-month traineeship in a pharmacy which is open to the public or in a hospital, under the supervision of that hospital's pharmaceutical department.</u> ”	12 months traineeship
“The balance between theoretical and practical training shall, in respect of each subject, give <u>sufficient importance to theory to maintain the university character of the training.</u> ”	Applies
Directive annex	How does / will this directive annex affect pharmacy E&T?
<b>V.6. PHARMACIST</b> <b>5.6.1. Course of training for pharmacists</b> Plant and animal biology / Physics / General and inorganic chemistry / Organic chemistry / Analytical chemistry / Pharmaceutical chemistry, including analysis of medicinal products / General and applied biochemistry (medical) / Anatomy and physiology; medical terminology / Microbiology / Pharmacology and pharmacotherapy / Pharmaceutical technology / Toxicology / Pharmacognosy / Legislation and, where appropriate, professional ethics.	This applies.



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**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES**



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**Website: [www.pharmine.org](http://www.pharmine.org)**