

Hospital pharmacists are experts in the field of medicines. They advise medical staff, nurses and patients to optimise the outcome from medicines. They also prepare, mix and dispense medicines.

Other tasks hospital pharmacists complete are:

- Provide education to patients on how, when and why to take their medication.
- Ensure that medicines are being given in the correct dosage and combinations, ensure patients are safely able to take their medication.
- Liaising with medical staff on the potential problems patients may experience with their medicines is a critical part of a hospital pharmacist's role.
- Hospital pharmacists provide specialist advice to patients with conditions such as heart, kidney and liver disease and for pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- Involved with medication safety programmes.
- Hospital pharmacists prepare medicines when ready-made preparations are not available. This will include cancer treatments and intravenous feeding solutions made in sterile conditions for individual patients.
- Some hospital pharmacists are involved in the management of Pharmacy Services and this involves reporting on expenditure and managing medicine budgets.
- Provide a medicine information service to health professionals and the public.

<b>Education required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharm)</li> <li>• Pre-registration training completed on the job</li> <li>• Post graduate training is recommended for hospital pharmacists</li> </ul>
<b>Training offered by</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Otago or University of Auckland</li> </ul>
<b>Perks!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You will always be in demand – there is a shortage of pharmacists currently.</li> <li>• Travel with your skills.</li> </ul>
<b>Links</b>	<a href="http://www.psnz.org.nz">www.psnz.org.nz</a> Pharmaceutical Society of NZ

