

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY AND PHARMACOGNOSY

THEMATIC AREA ; PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS

Staff

The Department has highly qualified members of staff to carry out teaching, research and service provision in Pharmacology and Therapeutics. This includes 3 full professors, 3 senior lecturers, 2 lecturers and 1 tutorial fellow. In addition teaching is supported by technical members of staff.

Academic Staff

- Prof. Maitai Charles K. - Professor
- Prof. Muriuki Gichuru - Professor
- Prof. Guantai Anastacia N. - Professor
- Dr. Sinei Kipruto A. - Senior lecturer
- Dr. Okalebo Faith A. - Senior lecturer
- Dr. Osanjo George O. - Senior lecturer
- Dr. Oluka O. Margret O. - Lecturer (**Head of Thematic Unit**)
- Dr. Guantai Eric M. - Lecturer
- Dr. Mulaku Mercy N. - Tutorial fellow

Technical Staff

- Mrs. Munenge Rahab - Principal technologist
- Mr. Mwaura Amos M - Chief Technologist
- Mr. Simiyu Juma D - Technologist
- Mr. Njihia William - Junior Technologist
- Mrs Kiratu Helen - Laboratory animal attendant
- Mr. Muchai Peter K - Laboratory animal attendant

Introduction

Pharmacology and Therapeutics is the study of how chemical agents, both natural and synthetic, affect biological systems and the application of this knowledge in disease prevention and management. It includes the study of a chemical's molecular, cellular, physiological and behavioural. It also deals with a chemical's mechanism of action, biological transformations and therapeutic and non-therapeutic uses.

History of the Thematic Unit of Pharmacology and Therapeutics

The thematic unit of Pharmacology and Therapeutics is part of the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacognosy which was created in 1995 when the Faculty of Pharmacy was created out of the then Faculty of Medicine. Prior to this time, it existed as a course unit under the Department of Pharmacy which was created in 1974.

Programs/courses offered

Pharmacology and Therapeutics is one of the core disciplines for undergraduate students pursuing most medical related courses such as pharmacy, medicine and nursing.

The unit provides training in Pharmacology and Therapeutics primarily to undergraduate students pursuing Bachelor of Pharmacy degree programs. These students are taught over a period of four years. Pharmacology and Therapeutics is a prerequisite for courses in Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice.

In addition the thematic unit provides training to undergraduate students pursuing Bachelor of Science in Laboratory Science.

At post-graduate level, the thematic unit offers a Masters in Molecular Pharmacology. In addition, the thematic unit offers training on Biological Assays to learners pursuing Master of Science in Pharmacognosy and Complementary Medicine. Learners are taught on how to investigate the biological effects of plant materials using isolated tissues and whole animals.

Research and Projects

In the fourth year of undergraduate studies, students are expected to carry out a research project over a period of one year that leads to a dissertation. The thematic unit supports student's

research by providing facilities to carry out studies on effects of potential drug candidates on physiological systems, isolated organs and whole laboratory animals.

Career opportunities

All alumni of the Pharmacology and Therapeutics thematic unit can specialize (through post-graduate training) in:

- Clinical pharmacology
- Toxicology
- Regulatory pharmacology.

They may also pursue careers in academia and institutions involved in drug research.

News and Events

Click [here](#) for news and events

Alumni

All B.Pharm graduates are alumni of the Pharmacology and Therapeutics thematic unit(click [here](#) for undergraduate alumni).

The thematic unit also has [post-graduate alumni](#):

- Dr Jessica Wesongah (PhD, 2008)