



MASTER OF
**CLINICAL
INVESTIGATION**

Empowering Healthcare Professionals to Design and Conduct Clinical
Research Relevant to Patient Care

WELCOME TO THE MASTER OF CLINICAL INVESTIGATION

MCI is a practice-grounded programme that turns everyday clinical questions into rigorous, publishable research. Established in 2008 to meet the growing need for clinician- and allied-health-led studies, the programme strengthens patient care, service quality, and accountability. With 250+ graduates and a consistently high completion rate, it blends time-tested academic rigor with modern research methods to deliver measurable impact.

What sets MCI apart is its proven structure — two coursework blocks plus a mentored research project — and its end-to-end training in study design, biostatistics, clinical trials, IRB and grant preparation, scientific writing, mock peer review, and viva.

You'll learn in a supportive, cohort-based environment guided by renowned clinician-scientists and quantitative experts, with close supervision on real projects and a strong inter-professional network — designed for busy working professionals.

If you're a clinician or allied health professional ready to turn evidence into better care, we'd be honoured to work with you. Bring your best questions — clipboards, keyboards, and curiosity welcome — and join MCI to lead change that lasts.

Dr Makoto Yawata

Programme Director,
Master of Clinical Investigation
NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine



PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

The Master of Clinical Investigation (MCI) at the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine is a coursework-based programme designed to build Singapore's clinical research capacity by equipping physicians and healthcare professionals with the skills to design and conduct impactful studies.

Developed in consultation with the Ministry of Health, senior clinician-researchers, and the National Medical Research Council (NMRC), the programme provides hands-on experience in integrating research into clinical practice and positions you to compete globally in academic medicine. It is recognised by the Singapore Medical Council for Continuing Medical Education (CME) (cohort-based approval).

You will learn to design clinical trials, prepare competitive research proposals, and conduct investigations relevant to your clinical practice. With rigorous training in study design, biostatistics, clinical trials, ethics, and health services research, you will be prepared to evaluate new treatments, technologies, and healthcare systems — research that drives better patient outcomes.

After graduation, you may go on to lead innovation in treatment and diagnostics, generate evidence to shape clinical practice and healthcare policy, and advance public health through research on disease outcomes and epidemiological trends.

Whether you are advancing in your specialty or laying the groundwork for a PhD, MCI prepares you to be a research-ready clinician and shape the future of healthcare.



Close Mentorship, Real Projects

Learn under experienced clinician-researchers, biostatisticians, and healthcare leaders — with hands-on supervision throughout your project.



Comprehensive, Real-World Curriculum

Covering study design, biostatistics, clinical trials, pharmacology, biomarkers, ethics, epidemiology, health services research, and scientific writing — aligned with MOH and NMRC priorities.



Collaborative Network

Join a vibrant community of clinicians, clinician-scientists, researchers, and healthcare professionals, contributing to Singapore's evolving interdisciplinary health services network.



Proven Pathway to Advanced Research

Graduate ready to lead studies or pursue a PhD; up to 24 units may be credited toward the NUS PhD, typically waiving most Year-1 coursework.



Professional Accreditation

Recognised by the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) for CME on a cohort basis. Upon successful completion, students may earn up to 25 CME points, subject to SMC prevailing guidelines.



Internationally Recognised Master's Degree

Earn a master's degree from Asia's leading medical school, opening doors to advanced education and global opportunities.



STUDY MODE

Part-time 2 years

Coursework is structured for working clinicians through accelerated teaching blocks that delivers in-depth knowledge efficiently

TUITION FEES

For AY2026/2027:

S\$63,750 (incl. GST)

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The MCI programme runs part-time over two academic years, with two components: Coursework and Research.

- ▶ The Coursework Component is completed in the first year, comprising ten courses delivered across two intensive teaching blocks designed to fit around clinical schedules. This component carries 32 units.
- ▶ The Research Component runs across both years and contributes 8 units, bringing the programme to a total of 40 units.

Coursework Component

10 Courses

SEM 1 (6 - 7 Weeks, Full Day)	SEM 2 (4 - 5 Weeks, Full Day)
MCI5001 Design and Planning of Clinical Studies	4 units
MCI5002 Clinical Biostatistics	4 units
MCI5003 Basic Clinical Pharmacology for Clinical Research	4 units
MCI5004 Molecular Biomarkers in Clinical Research	4 units
MCI5005 Ethics and Regulation of Clinical Research	2 units
MCI5006 Design and Planning of Epidemiological Studies	4 units
32 units in total	

Research Component

MCI5008 Research Project

Phase 1 (Academic Year 1)

Conceptualisation, Planning and Proposal Preparation

Phase 2 (Academic Year 2)

Practical Experience Conducting an Actual Research Project

Features:

- ▶ Wet-lab session* (Academic Year 1 Semester 1): Gain exposure to the basic research lab environment
- ▶ Mentorship: Each student is paired with two mentors — one in biostatistics and one clinical — who will guide them throughout their research project

8 units in total

Fast-track to NUS PhD

MCI graduates may be eligible for a transfer of up to 24 units towards the NUS PhD programme, waiving most of the first-year coursework.

*Compulsory

Explore the programme curriculum, study plan, and other details on our programme webpage.

COURSES

MCI5001 Design and Planning of Clinical Studies	Gain a strong foundation in clinical study design, from early-phase to late-phase and adaptive trials, including real-world evidence studies	MCI5006 Design and Planning of Epidemiological Studies	Learn to design and analyse epidemiological studies including cohort, case-control, screening, meta-analysis, and survey methods
MCI5002 Clinical Biostatistics	Learn essential statistical methods for clinical research, including descriptive and inferential statistics, regression, and sample size/power calculations	MCI5007 Scientific Writing	Build practical skills in literature reviews, grant writing, and journal publication of original research
MCI5003 Basic Clinical Pharmacology for Clinical Research	Explore pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, pharmacogenetics, and their application in drug development, regulation, and clinical trial design	SPH5102 Design, Conduct and Analysis of Clinical Trials	Examine trial methodology, blinding, randomisation, ethics, interim analyses, and meta-analysis, with emphasis on Phase III trials
MCI5004 Molecular Biomarkers in Clinical Research	Focus on biomarker discovery, validation, and application in diagnostics, prognostics, and therapeutic decision-making within clinical trials	MCI5009 Health Services Research Methods for Clinicians	Evaluate healthcare programmes and interventions using survey methods, cost-effectiveness, decision analysis, and health technology assessment
MCI5005 Ethics and Regulation of Clinical Research	Develop a clear understanding of key ethical principles, good clinical practice, and regulatory frameworks guiding human subject research	MCI5008 Research Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Conduct a literature review, plan and design a study, and, where feasible, carry out a preliminary or pilot study▶ Address budgetary, ethical, and logistical considerations in developing a full research protocol▶ Final assessment is based on an oral presentation and the submission of a research proposal suitable for a local funding agency
AQM Advanced Quantitative Methods	Strengthen core statistical thinking for clinical research through hands-on labs covering continuous, binary, and time-to-event analyses		

For the full breakdown of core and elective courses, visit our programme webpage.

CAREER POSSIBILITIES



TRUSTED VOICES

"As a clinician, the exposure to multidisciplinary research platforms and analytical strategies that I learned through my MCI course has helped me shape my research ever since."

- Prof Gemmy Cheung, Class of 2014

Professor, Duke-NUS Eye ACP, National University of Singapore

"The MCI course provided me with strong fundamentals in the design and conduct of clinical research. I learnt how to think systematically, plan rigorously, and translate ideas into actionable studies. The mentorship and skills gained have been invaluable in leading an NMRC-funded clinical trial investigating novel cell therapy."

- Dr Chen Yunxin, Class of 2018

Senior Consultant, National Cancer Centre Singapore, Singapore General Hospital



WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The programme welcomes applicants from clinical and healthcare backgrounds, including doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, and allied health professionals. It is ideal for:

Healthcare Professionals

interested in integrating clinical research into patient care and driving medical advancements

Clinician-Researchers and Allied Health Experts

looking to deepen their research capabilities and contribute to improved health outcomes



KEY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Academic and Professional Background

Applicants must meet one of the following:

For Physicians:

- ▶ Hold an M.B.B.S. (or equivalent) from an internationally recognised medical school
- ▶ Be in specialist training or above and have two years of post-registration clinical experience at the time of application

For Other Healthcare Professionals (e.g., Allied Health, Nursing, TCM):

- ▶ Hold a recognised qualification in a healthcare profession
- ▶ Have at least three years of professional practice experience

Please note that admission is competitive, and meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee entry into the programme, as applicants will also be assessed through an interview with the Programme Director.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR APPLICATION

- ✓ Statement of Purpose showcasing motivation to study, research experiences, and research interests
- ✓ Research Project Proposal Write-up with title and references
- ✓ Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- ✓ Referee Report from Head of Department (HOD)
- ✓ Degree Certificate and University Transcripts
- ✓ Professional Registration Certificate (if applicable)
- ✓ TOEFL / IELTS Scoresheet (if applicable)

◻ Visit our programme webpage for the full list of supporting documents required for your application.

UPCOMING INTAKE

August 2026

APPLICATION PERIOD

1 November 2025 - 31 March 2026

FEE REBATES AND FUNDING

- ▶ NMRC Research Training Fellowship, subject to eligibility requirements
- ▶ Sponsorship by Institution/Department

◻ For the most up-to-date information on tuition fees, payment schedule, and available grants or funding support, please visit our programme webpage.

THE NUS MEDICINE ADVANTAGE



QS Medicine (Asia)



THE (World)



QS Medicine (World)

At the National University of Singapore (NUS), students receive a world-class education at one of the top global universities. The Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine is Asia's leading medical school, offering an exceptional opportunity to pursue advanced medical education.

Known for producing healthcare professionals who are innovators and leaders, its global reputation, paired with its focus on fostering critical thinking and innovation, makes its graduates highly sought after in both research and clinical settings. A master's degree from NUS Medicine is an investment in a future of leadership, expertise, and meaningful impact in the healthcare industry.

Statistics Source: Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings and Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2025



**SCAN QR TO START
YOUR APPLICATION**



**Master of Clinical
Investigation (MCI)**

For general enquiries, please email dgsmarketing@nus.edu.sg
For programme-specific enquiries, please contact mci@nus.edu.sg



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