

Tohu Paerunga Mātai Matū Rongoā Postgraduate Medicinal Chemistry



Postgraduate study in Medicinal Chemistry combines advanced courses in Chemistry, Biology and Medical Science with laboratory work and a year-long research project supervised by an academic staff member in the School of Chemical Sciences.

Research interests open to exploration include: analytical chemistry, biomolecular chemistry, structural and computational chemistry, bioactive molecules, structural biology, molecular cell biology, toxicology and clinical pharmacology.

Courses available in this subject include:

- › Advanced Medicinal Chemistry
- › Advanced Physical Chemistry
- › Advanced Inorganic Chemistry
- › Biomolecular Chemistry
- › Current Topics in Analytical Chemistry
- › Modern Methods for the Synthesis of Bioactive Molecules

Choosing your supervisor

Supervisors can usually only take a small number of students, so make sure you talk to them sooner rather than later.

Choose an area you feel passionate about. Undertaking research involves successes as well as challenges, so choosing a topic you are genuinely interested in will help you overcome challenges and get through the tough times.

Ensure you're compatible with your supervisor. Ask questions, seek advice and share your ideas with academic staff to find out their research interests, and whether you would be a good fit with their current projects.

Scholarships

You can apply for a range of scholarships when you apply for postgraduate study in Science.

auckland.ac.nz/science-scholarships

BSc

BSc(Hons)

PhD



Career opportunities

Medicinal Chemistry is one of the most rapidly developing areas within the discipline of chemistry, both globally and locally.

Medicinal chemists design and develop drugs for the treatment of disease. By completing the Medicinal Chemistry degree programme, you will have been provided with a unique combination of skills: you will be trained in the synthesis, reactivity and analysis of organic compounds and gain valuable insight into the pharmacological, regulatory and ethical aspects of these bioactive compounds.

Our graduates find employment in a wide range of institutions such as biomedical and pharmaceutical companies, local and national government agencies, private research institutions and Public Research Organisations.

Our graduates have been employed in the following jobs:

- › Commercialisation manager, Kiwi Innovation Network
- › Patent executive, A J Park
- › Medicinal chemist, University of Auckland
- › Medical laboratory assistant, New Zealand Blood Service
- › Laboratory technician, Eurofins

This subject is available in:

- › Bachelor of Science (Honours)
- › Doctor of Philosophy

You may also be interested in our programmes in Biological Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Chemistry, Food Science and Pharmacology.



Find out more about how your degree will be structured and what courses you need to take at

auckland.ac.nz/science/pg-med-chem

Applications close on 8 December.



Kuhua ki tō mātou hāpori, ā, Kimihia tōu Pūtaiao.
Join our community and find your Science.



Disclaimer: The information in this document is a general guide only for students and subject to alteration. All students enrolling at the University of Auckland must consult its official Calendar, to ensure that they are aware of and comply with all regulations, requirements and policies. [2026]

**Have any questions?
Contact the Student Hub**

auckland.ac.nz/student-hubs