

Educational purpose

School of Medicine and Health Sciences cultivates good medical professionals, that is, those who can deal with every person backed up by solid communication ability in addition to outstanding medical skills in adherence with the global standards, as well as the world's level researchers in the disciplines of medicine, nursing and medical sciences.

College of Medicine

■ Doctor of Medicine

■ Educational purpose ■

College of Medicine cultivates doctors who possess fundamental clinical competence and medical research ability and can practice medicine with well-rounded human nature along with high problem-solving ability and good communication ability with attention to the viewpoint of patients. They are expected to serve and contribute the society actively in global scenes of each area of expertise as outstanding specialized doctors, medical educators, medical researchers or administrative persons in health, medicine or welfare in the future.

■ Desired students ■

We seek candidates those who possess sufficient basic academic abilities in natural science, linguistic skill, etc. as well as rich creativity, inquisitive mind, high ethical view, cooperativeness, communication ability, and the determination to contribute to the health and welfare of humanity throughout their life.

Measures to ensure and improve the quality of education

To improve the quality of education, we established the Office of Medical Education Planning and Evaluation, which plays a coordinating role in education in cooperation with the College of Medicine Committee for the Promotion of Education. In addition to making improvements through making proposals for curriculum development, supporting the implementation of each program, and working on a series of processes from class evaluation to feedback, the Office conducts planning of new programs to meet the needs of society.

We work on faculty development (FD) to improve teaching methods. Along with the starter and refresher training programs that are mandatory for all faculty members, training sessions are held for relevant faculty members under the theme of PBL tutorial scenario development, brush-up, etc. A total of 200 members attend these programs each year.

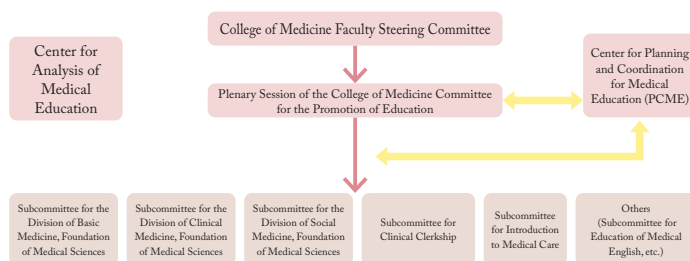
Program evaluations from students and faculty are conducted at the end of each course and at the end of each academic year to provide feedback for curriculum development and steady improvement.

The Center for Analysis of Medical Education (IR Center) has been established as an independent evaluation department to analyze educational outcomes.

Students take the tests administrated by the Common Achievement Tests Organization, which are commonly taken by the medical students all over Japan. To ensure the level of our graduates entering into the professional world, the College of Medicine Steering Committee, which is composed of faculty members responsible for each division of the College, makes decisions on credit approval, promotion, and graduation.

Accreditation of medical education by field based on international standards College of Medicine, School of Medicine and Health Sciences at the University of Tsukuba underwent an on-site review by the Japan Accreditation Council for Medical Education (JACME) based on the self-assessment report from Tuesday, November 10 to Friday, November 13, 2015, and gained accreditation (accreditation period: April 2017 to end of March 2025). (The self-assessment report used in the on-site review is available on the College of Medicine website.)

Measures to ensure the quality of education and improve educational abilities



- College of Medicine Faculty Steering Committee: Approval for curriculum and grades.
- College of Medicine Committee for the Promotion of Education: Examination on the problems and improvement in the curriculum.
- Office of Planning and Coordination for Medical Education (PCME): Advice on curriculum development for each academic year, support for implementation, class evaluation, curriculum evaluation (evaluation by students, faculty, graduates, and external organizations), feedback of evaluation results and suggestions for improvement, planning and implementation of FD.
- Center for Analysis of Medical Education (IR Center): Collection and analysis of information on educational outcomes as an organization under the direct control of the College of Medicine.

Doctor of Medicine

Diploma Policy

A Doctor of Medicine is granted to those who are admitted to have gained the knowledge and ability (Generic Competences) that should be gained based on the curriculum targets stipulated for the University of Tsukuba's undergraduate degree programs and have gained the required competencies at the time of the graduation of College of Medicine.

Professionalism

One has well-rounded human nature, the deep appreciation for the sanctity of life and ethical view and are capable of practicing medicine with a sense of identity and responsibility as a potential doctor who preserves life and health. In addition, one always has aspirations and can reflect what he or she learns and continue self-improvement throughout his or her life.

Scientific thinking

One interprets an event from a scientific point of view with curiosity and inquisitive mind and can understand scientific methods for solving unknown problems.

Communication

To provide medical care that focuses on patients in cooperation with a medical team that involves many different job types, one can communicate with patients, their families and team members appropriately.

Practice of medical examination

Possesses the knowledge of basic medicine, clinical medicine, social medicine and behavioral science as the foundation of medical care, understands the problems of every patient by applying it, and can carry out appropriate examination for solving them.

Medical sociality

Interpreting the problems of the community/society or of all mankind, let alone of human individuals, from a wide perspective, one can recognize associated laws and regulations, institutions, systems and resources with regard to health, medicine and welfare, and practice activities that support the health in the community/society based on social infrastructures.

Ability to open up the future

To build up one's future to widely contribute to the society, he or she possesses a global perspective and shows willingness to challenge daringly and strongly but flexibly even under difficult circumstances. In addition, inheriting the tradition as "Tsukuba the education", one can practice education with passion and exert leadership in cooperation with persons around him or her.

Curriculum Policy

We organize and implement curricula based on the following policies for programs that allow students to acquire learning outcomes related to Doctor of Medicine.

General policy

As the nation's first medical school that adopted a program of six years, Tsukuba started its medical school integrating the disciplines of fundamental medicine, clinical medicine and social medicine. The Program features the prime importance on self-learning and problem-solving ability development and a rich selection of hands-on programs.

Course sequence policy

First through third year...Basic course of medicine

Students are divided in a small group of eight to nine students of the basic course of medicine. Facilitated by tutor faculty members, students learn predominantly with the "PBL tutorial" learning method, which gives students tasks to solve problems independently through debates on case examples or self-study.

The curriculum is structured with 28 courses in which the areas of basic, clinical and social medicine are integrated.

Fourth through sixth year...Clinical participatory training (Clinical clerkship)

Different from the conventional clinical training, in which medical students predominantly visit and see medical care scenes, medical students are engaged in participatory clinical training as a student doctor, which is hence a medical care team member. During one year in the first-half period, students learn at internal medicine, surgery and other required clinical departments at mainly the university hospital, and in the second-half period, training is also given at community medical institutions in Ibaraki Prefecture in addition to elective training. Before engaged in hospital training, students need to pass the CBT (computer-based evaluation of knowledge) and

OSCE (objective evaluation of practical skills with regard to basic clinical competences and attitudes), which are organized by Common Achievement Tests Organization.

■ First through sixth year...Introductory medical care

The realms difficult to learn in the above programs by organ, such as medical ethics, team medical care, community medical care (primary care), health promotion, doctor-patient relationship, and other realms, are systematically learned.

■ Sixth year...Advanced electives

Training is given at in-/outside university hospitals in-/outside Japan, laboratories, administrative institutions, or other places according to the need of each student.

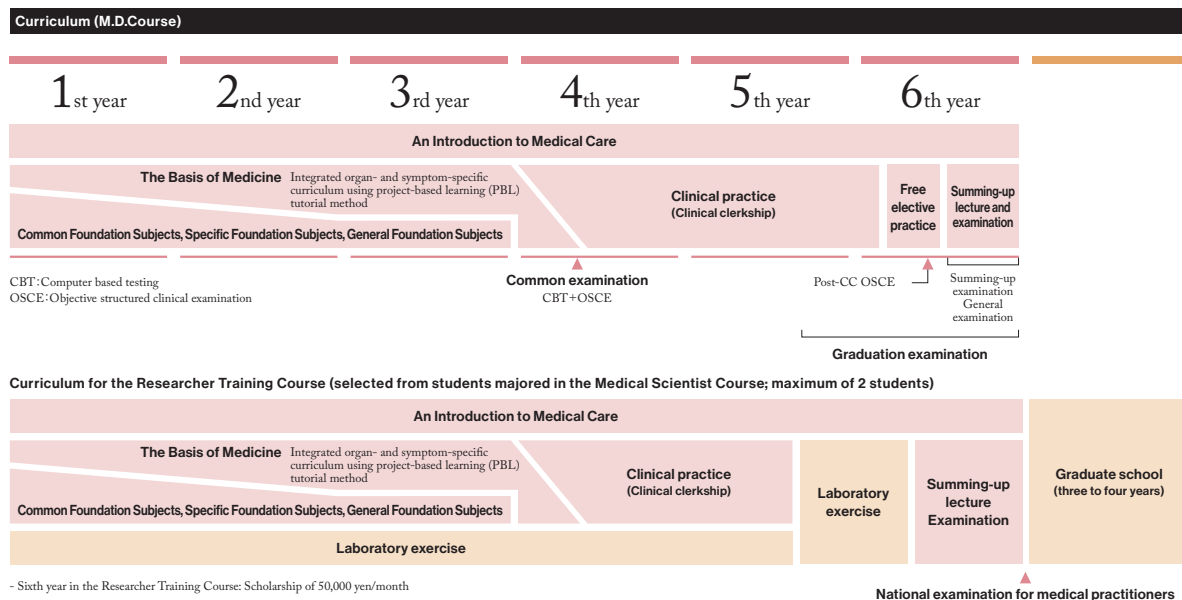
■ First through sixth year...Laboratory seminars/workshops

Under the advice of faculty members at the laboratory in the area in which each student has interest, students are engaged in leading-edge medical research. From the second half of the fifth year, students have the option to move on to the

future medical research by selecting “new major in medicine” or another option to advance to the graduate school master’s program right after graduation (researcher development course).

Implementation policy

Tutorial-type small group courses are adopted in all aspects during first academic years to encourage students to acquire the attitude and habit of voluntarily learning and the ability of solving unknown problems. To support this learning, resource persons (faculty members) are staffed, systems of learning support such as an e-learning environment are organized, and study meetings for faculty members are held on a regular basis to improve teaching methods. Students learn with clinical training at principally each clinical department of the university hospital and also by using the system of community medical care education center/station in which university faculty members directly instruct students in medical scenes in the communities in Ibaraki Prefecture.



Doctor of Medicine

Policy for evaluation of learning outcomes

The achievement of learning targets of each subject is fairly evaluated using the method defined in the syllabus. In the fourth year, students take the CBT and OSCE, which are national common exams, and those who pass them are authorized to advance to hospital training as student doctors. In the sixth year, after completion of clinical clerkship, students take the OSCE and pass of the examination is required for graduation. Grade advancement or graduation is judged with justice by the College of Medicine education conference management board based on the objective criteria of each year of grade.

Other noteworthy features

By engaging in English language education reform and conducting the International Baccalaureate Special Entrance Examination, we recruit students with a rich sense of internationalism from all over the world and train them to be physicians who can play active roles in the world.

