

Preparing Students for the Future Pharmacists with an Emphasis on Research and Globalization

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Because pharmacy education advocates quality of pharmacy education globally, this program is also designed to encourage and foster Japanese participation in health care internationally.

Seven to eight faculty members from sister universities in the US are invited and come annually to teach clinical pharmacy topics to students in English. This arrangement is one of the first exposures for students to be involved in global education. In order to observe and experience advanced clinical pharmacy practices and services, students visit the sister universities/medical centers in the US for from four to ten weeks. The rotations abroad are going well especially since the students become familiar with preceptors through not only classes but off-campus extracurricular activities as well.

Some pharmacists from various developing countries come to the Kyoritsu University of Pharmacy by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) project. The students share and exchange their experience with the pharmacists with different cultural backgrounds.

Students from sister universities in the US and Thailand have taken rotations in Japan to learn about the Japanese medical and health care system. All these students are similar in age and unbiased towards ethnicity or nationality, and they exchange their thoughts freely and enthusiastically about the common goal of striving to become the best clinician they can be.

Up to now many students have had a passive attitude toward the impact of globalization on pharmacy practice. Consequently, the program is actively promoting the exchange of information and students with Asian pharmacy schools through education and research to increase their awareness about the import and impact that globalization can have on pharmacy practice.