

MALTA

MEDICINES
AUTHORITY



ACADEMY
FOR PATIENT CENTRED
EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION
IN REGULATORY SCIENCES

**Award in Cannabis for Medicinal and
Research Purposes**

Award in Cannabis for Medicinal and Research Purposes

A Higher Education Programme accredited by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority

This award offers a comprehensive background on the intricate realms of the regulatory, analytical and clinical facets within the field of medicinal cannabis. The course is designed to cover various elements, including the biochemistry and pharmacology of cannabis, legal and regulatory frameworks, laboratory analysis and good practices: Good Agricultural and Collection Practice (GACP), Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Good Distribution Practice (GDP), along with security protocols, therapeutic applications and safety monitoring.

EQF/MQF Level: 6

ECTS: 1

Mode of Attendance and Duration: Part-time for a total of 25 hours, including lectures, self-study and assessment

Status: Open for enrolment

Dates: To be announced

Venue: Malta Life Sciences Park, San Ġwann

Speakers:

Seasoned professionals with diverse expertise in cannabis for medicinal and research purposes.

Objective:

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of medicinal cannabis, covering regulatory provisions, clinical applications, quality, and safety. Participants will develop critical appraisal skills, enabling them to navigate emerging trends and assess the scientific foundations of medicinal cannabis in a global context.

Learning outcomes:

Knowledge

Learners will be able to:

- Interpret the historical context alongside the legislative/regulatory framework relevant to cannabis for medicinal and research purposes.
- Outline cannabis plant taxonomy, morphology and genetics.
- Describe the biochemistry of cannabis and the endocannabinoid system.
- Understand guidance relevant to cannabis for medicinal and research purposes including GACP, GMP and GDP.

- Identify different types of medical cannabis-based products including extracts, oils and flowers along with manufacturing processes, quality control and labelling requirements.
- Appreciate analytical techniques used for assessing cannabis-based formulations.
- Discuss pharmacological elements including cannabinoid pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics.
- Discern regulatory submission procedures including requirements for obtaining licenses, approvals and permits for cannabis-related activities.
- Describe supply-chain integrity as relevant to medical cannabis-based products.
- Appreciate current evidence on therapeutic applications and safety considerations of medicinal cannabis.
- Understand safety monitoring principles including the importance of adverse reaction reporting.
- Gain insights into public health considerations related to medicinal cannabis, including relevant local protocols.
- Discern the role of healthcare professionals in the context of medicinal cannabis.
- Recognize the importance of continued research initiatives in the field of medicinal cannabis.

Skills

Learner will be able to:

- Appraise and assimilate scientific literature on medicinal cannabis including clinical trials, pharmacology studies and regulatory publications, to stay informed and make evidence-based decisions.
- Prepare regulatory submissions required for obtaining licenses, approvals and permits related to medicinal cannabis such as manufacturing and distribution.
- Apply Good Practices relevant to medicinal cannabis activities.
- Monitor compliance with regulatory requirements including quality and analytical testing and ensure supply chain integrity.
- Apply multi-disciplinary knowledge for the comprehension of medicinal cannabis developments.

- f) Document and report adverse events related to the use of medical cannabis-based products.
- g) Communicate effectively with stakeholders and interprofessional teams on medicinal cannabis.

Competences

At the end of the course the learner will have acquired the responsibility and autonomy to:

- a) Develop strategies to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and quality standards in cannabis cultivation, processing, and distribution.
- b) Analyse data from medicinal cannabis studies for evidence-based considerations.
- c) Compile submissions in line with regulatory requirements.
- d) Collaborate effectively with interdisciplinary teams, including healthcare professionals, researchers, regulators, and industry stakeholders, to address complex issues related to medicinal cannabis use and research.

Target Audience:

This course is designed for individuals who aim to establish a solid understanding of the fundamental principles of Cannabis for Medicinal and Research Purposes. This educational initiative aims to build on participants' knowledge and advance individual aptitudes for continuous development, informed judgement and practical implementation of achieved competences.

Entry requirements:

Target audience must have minimum qualifications at MQF level 4 in a science related area or apply for consideration through the [Recognition of Prior Learning \(RPL\)](#).

For third country nationals, the link to Identity Malta's VISA requirement refers: <https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visa-unit/>

Delivery:

This programme is delivered in the English Language. The Traditional/Face-to-Face learning approach ensures that the speakers and participants engage in discussions and debates, exchange ideas, and collectively analyse evolving scenarios and prospective outcomes. In tandem, participants are encouraged to work on independent critical thinking and become proactive leaders in their own learning process.

Assessment:

On completion of the course, participants shall complete a written summative assessment consisting of a set of multiple-choice questions.

Certification:

Upon successful course completion, participants are granted an Award in Cannabis for Medicinal and Research Purposes accredited and recognised by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority.

Course Fee:

€850

Interested individuals are invited to read the [MMA Academy IQA Policy](#).

For further information or assistance, kindly contact the MMA Academy via academy.medicinesauthority@gov.mt or 23439168 / 23439200.



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