

Programme Information		
Programme Title	Programme Code	HECoS Code
Allergy	A3F2O	For Registry Use Only

Award	Length of Study	Mode of Study	Entry Point(s)	Total Credits	
				ECTS	CATS
PG Certificate (Online)	9 months	Part-time	Annually in October	30	60

Ownership			
Awarding Institution	Imperial College London	Faculty	Faculty of Medicine
Teaching Institution	Imperial College London	Department	National Heart and Lung Institute
Associateship	N/A	Main Location(s) of Study	Online

External Reference	
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external reference points	Postgraduate Taught Awards in Medicine
FHEQ Level	Level 7
EHEA Level	2nd Cycle

External Accreditor(s) (if applicable)			
External Accreditor 1:	N/A		
Accreditation received:	N/A	Accreditation renewal:	N/A

Collaborative Provision			
Collaborative partner	Collaboration type	Agreement effective date	Agreement expiry date
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Specification Details	
Programme Lead	Dr Marta Vazquez-Ortiz, Programme Director
Student cohorts covered by specification	2022-23 entry
Date of introduction of programme	October '11
Date of programme specification/revision	February '22

Programme Overview

The programme has been designed to be applicable to students with a wide range of background skills in Allergy, who require a detailed understanding of the scientific basis of allergic disease, evidence-based approaches to diagnosis and treatment, critical evaluation of literature and core research methodologies in the Allergy field. Many of you will be Specialty Trainee doctors in Allergy or Paediatrics (specialist registrar level); however, the programme will be specifically designed to be multidisciplinary and therefore also suitable for other healthcare professionals working with children and adults with allergic diseases, such as GPs, chest physicians, ENT doctors, dermatologists, specialist nurses, dieticians or nutritionists. The programme is also suitable for basic scientists, as it will enable you to develop a deep understanding of the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying allergic diseases, from clinical presentations to diagnostic tests and innovative management strategies that will help inform future basic research in Allergy.

The PG Cert in Allergy offers a broad coverage of the scientific basis of allergic disease, a focus on innovations in diagnosis and treatment in allergic diseases as well as a theoretical background to the principles of evidence-based medicine and critical evaluation. There are also opportunities to develop skills in teaching and learning within the discipline of allergy. By the end of the PG Cert programme, you will have enhanced your understanding of the scientific basis of allergy, your ability to diagnose and manage allergic conditions to the highest standards, as well as your critical appraisal skills and understanding of evidence-based allergy care. You will also have developed skills in the use of computing applied to healthcare and a deeper understanding of your own approach to adult learning.

This programme is designed to integrate with clinical training to develop key competencies from the joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board curriculum in Allergy training, as well as the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health curriculum in Paediatric Allergy training.

This online stream of the PG Cert in Allergy will run alongside the existing blended iteration of the programme, offering the opportunity to participants to remotely access all synchronous and asynchronous sessions, without having to attend on campus.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the PG Certificate, you will be able to:

1. Illustrate the pathophysiology underlying allergic diseases (with a focus on immune mechanisms and contributing factors), their development and progression from childhood into adulthood.
2. Appraise the suitability of current best practice in assessing, diagnosing and managing patients with allergic diseases in view of the underlying pathophysiology and current evidence.
3. Select appropriate investigations and tests and interpret the results for presented allergy symptoms.
4. Make clinical decisions for allergy, based on clinical history, clinical examination and test results.
5. Critically analyse evidence from a variety of sources and assess its value for clinical practice and research in the field of allergy.
6. Develop a well-justified testable research hypothesis and propose an appropriate research methodology in the field of allergy within the context of the regulatory framework.

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial College degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirement

The minimum requirement is normally a minimum of 2.1 UK Bachelor's Degree with Honours in a healthcare related subject such as Nursing, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy or similar health science (or a comparable qualification recognised by the College).

For further information on entry requirements, please go to <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements/pgacademic/>

Non-academic Requirements	Students with a Postgraduate Diploma and substantial work experience in a related healthcare field may be considered, subject to an interview with the Programme Director.
English Language Requirement	Higher requirement (PG) Please check for other Accepted English Qualifications
Admissions Test/Interview	All applicants are interviewed prior to an offer of a place, whenever possible, either in person or via an electronic platform (such as ZOOM or SKYPE) or by telephone. Applicants who do not fulfil the College's minimum general academic entry requirements may be considered for admission subject to the successful completion of a special qualifying examination under the auspices of the College's special case policy.

The programme's competency standards documents can be found at: **TBA**

Learning & Teaching Approach

Learning and Teaching Delivery Methods

This part-time online programme adopts an active learning strategy where the students are encouraged to be responsible for identifying their areas of weakness in knowledge and experience and using the programme resources and live online teaching sessions to learn both in collaboration with the teaching team and their peers, and on their own through self-directed learning.

The modules consist of various teaching methodologies, including asynchronous and synchronous elements by experts in their field from Imperial and other top-rated institutions, and may include:

- Asynchronous elements, allowing students to engage at their own pace, such as reading/audios/videos/ pre-recorded lectures/ pre-recorded mini-lectures/web-based resources to read/listen/watch, as well as student-led tasks and quizzes to work on individually as well as in groups and prepare for the synchronous (live) sessions
- Synchronous elements in a broad range of formats including live specialist lectures and mini-lectures, pro-con debates, scenario and case-based discussion sessions, focused discussions, expert panel Q&As, student-led presentations, poster sessions, journal clubs, student-led 'bring your own challenge or case', 'mock scenario' or 'mock clinic' sessions. Learning approaches such as flipped classroom, team-based or problem-based learning will be used.
These taught materials will be shared by the attendance and the online streams.
- Further to these, video recordings of the synchronous sessions, and often slides, for later review are provided.
- Workshops and practical sessions that promote learner participation and link skill acquisition and understanding with practice. These may include how to treat severe reactions in a simulation scenario, how to use common treatments (creams, devices, etc.) in practice, how to run an allergy clinic (including role play to simulate patient interaction), how to conduct allergy in vivo and in vitro tests, including how to perform specialised procedures such as allergen provocation challenges and delivering immunotherapy. All of the above will be provided in a simulated setting.
- Online learning materials, quizzes and core and supplementary reading lists on Leganto all delivered via Blackboard
- Signposting to further learning materials such as useful videos, websites and conferences
- Supportive tutorials available to join online
- Networking and cohort building online through group work

Additionally, you are encouraged to contact the programme team for administrative, pastoral and learning support as needed. Additional tutorial sessions can be arranged, and exploration of your feedback can be discussed with the team.

Overall Workload

Your overall workload consists of face-to-face sessions and independent learning. While your actual contact hours may vary according to the optional modules you choose to study, the following gives an indication of how

much time you will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the programme. At Imperial, each [ECTS credit](#) taken equates to an expected total study time of 25 hours. Therefore, the expected total study time is 750 hours per year for a 30 ECTS programme.

Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods

Assessment is treated as a dialogue between you and the teaching faculty. The student ownership of learning and improvement is stressed.

The formative assessments help you to practise and develop skills in individual and in group settings. The teacher and peer feedback that you receive will inform how to improve your performance and you can also learn from observation of good practice that is modelled by presenters and module leaders and peers. Self-reflection and learning from the different methods of feedback (verbal or written, informal or formal) is encouraged.

The summative assessments are reflected in the module assignments which are designed to assess the intended learning throughout the programme, by the employment of skilled real-world outputs such as paper writing on selected topics or cases, poster creation and individual and group presentations. Each assessment is carefully selected to complement the module and to produce an authentic output that is related to the discipline. These assignments lead to the development of transferable professional skills that will be useful in your future career. Furthermore, your work will lead to practical demonstrations of the graduate attributes that have been achieved. You will show gains in communication skills in a variety of modalities from a variety of written platforms to presentation techniques.

An online plagiarism awareness course must be completed and the certificate must be presented before any assignment can be accepted.

There is one open book multiple choice exam that is included after module one. The purpose is to assess your grasp of the materials in that key module. The exam demonstrates your knowledge and your ability to apply learning to case studies. It is an authentic assessment for you as there are often exams included as you develop in your career.

Academic Feedback Policy

Feedback will be appropriately tailored for the type of assessment and will be provided in a timely manner. The exact turnaround time will depend upon the length and complexity of the submission, but will normally be within two weeks. Where it is longer, students will be told when they may expect to receive their feedback.

The College's Policy on Academic Feedback and guidance on issuing provisional marks to students is available at:

www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/academic-policy/exams-and-assessment/

Re-sit Policy

The College's Policy on Re-sits is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/

Mitigating Circumstances Policy

The College's Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/student-records-and-data/for-current-students/undergraduate-and-taught-postgraduate/exams-assessments-and-regulations/

Additional Programme Costs

This section should outline any additional costs relevant to this programme which are not included in students' tuition fees.

Description	Mandatory/Optional	Approximate cost
N/A	N/A	N/A

Important notice: The Programme Specifications are the result of a large curriculum and pedagogy reform implemented by the Department and supported by the Learning and Teaching Strategy of Imperial College London. The modules, structure and assessments presented in this Programme Specification are correct at time of publication but might change as a result of student and staff feedback and the introduction of new or innovative approaches to teaching and learning. You will be consulted and notified in a timely manner of any changes to this document.

Programme Structure ¹					
Year 1 - FHEQ Level 7 Students study all core modules.					
Code	Module Title	Core/ Elective/ Compulsory	Group	Term	Credits
NHLI70025	The Scientific Basis of Allergy	Core		1	10
NHLI70026	The Diagnosis and Treatment of Allergic Disease	Core		2	10
NHLI70027	The Cutting Edge of Allergy	Core		3	10
Credit Total					30

¹ **Core** modules are those which serve a fundamental role within the curriculum, and for which achievement of the credits for that module is essential for the achievement of the target award. Core modules must therefore be taken and passed in order to achieve that named award. **Compulsory** modules are those which are designated as necessary to be taken as part of the programme syllabus. Compulsory modules can be compensated. **Elective** modules are those which are in the same subject area as the field of study and are offered to students in order to offer an element of choice in the curriculum and from which students are able to select. Elective modules can be compensated.

Progression and Classification
<p>Award and Classification for Postgraduate Students</p> <p>Award of a Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert) To qualify for the award of a postgraduate certificate a student must have a minimum of 30 credits at Level 7.</p> <p>Classification of Postgraduate Taught Awards PGCerts are not classified; they are only Pass/Fail</p>
Programme Specific Regulations
N/A

Supporting Information
The 2022-23 Programme Handbook is available on Blackboard here
Module information is available in the 2022-23 Programme Handbook on Blackboard
The College's entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements
The College's Quality & Enhancement Framework is available at: www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance
The College's Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at: www.imperial.ac.uk/about/governance/academic-governance/regulations
Imperial College is an independent corporation whose legal status derives from a Royal Charter granted under Letters Patent in 1907. In 2007 a Supplemental Charter and Statutes was granted by HM Queen Elizabeth II. This Supplemental Charter, which came into force on the date of the College's Centenary, 8th July 2007, established the College as a University with the name and style of "The Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine". www.imperial.ac.uk/admin-services/secretariat/college-governance/charters/
Imperial College London is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS) www.officeforstudents.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/the-register/
This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is primarily intended as a reference point for prospective and current students, academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement, for its assessment by internal and external examiners, and in subsequent monitoring and review.

Modifications			
Description	Approved	Date	Paper Reference
New Stream	Programmes Committee	22/4/22	PC.2021.111