# Pathways to Medicine at Griffith

Griffith UNIVERSITY
Queensland, Australia

# Why do you want to be a doctor?

- Because it is a service to the community?
- Because it is a personally and professionally rewarding career?
- Because of the wide diversity of secure career opportunities?
- Because of the shortage of medical practitioners worldwide?

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# Becoming a Medical Practitioner….(it really does take a while)!

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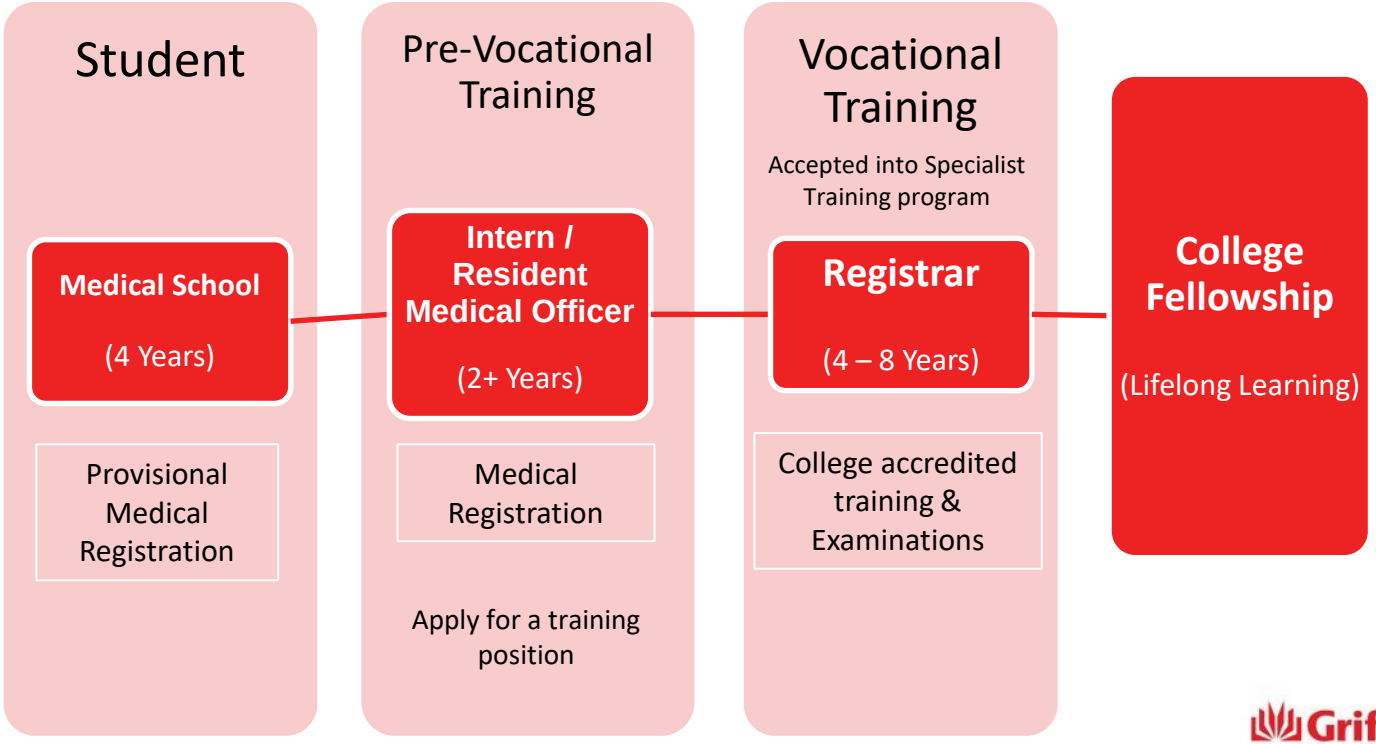


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# Griffith University School of Medicine

- Opened in 2005 with first students graduated in 2008
- More than 1200 graduates, many of whom are now in specialty training or with completed fellowships
- Doctor of Medicine (AQF level 9 ‘extended masters’ degree)
- Cohort size of 200+ students per year (domestic and international)
- Options of studying all 4 years at Sunshine Coast or Gold Coast

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# Our learning approach

- Strong focus on learning rather than teaching
- Lifelong learning is a core skill for medical practitioners
- So much medical knowledge now that no one person can ever ‘master’ it all
- Most important function of a medical school in today’s world is to help future doctors to **learn how to learn**

# Griffith University medical program

Early clinical exposure/ protected learning in clinical skills  workshops with a strong community focus.

**Medicine 1 & 2:**

You spend the majority of time at the School attending Lectures, PBL, and Communication / Clinical Skills workshops.  These two years are
non graded – Pass or Fail ONLY

**Medicine 3 & 4:**

Your clinical years when 95% of your time is in the Hospital but still attending workshops and seminars at the University. These two years
are graded.

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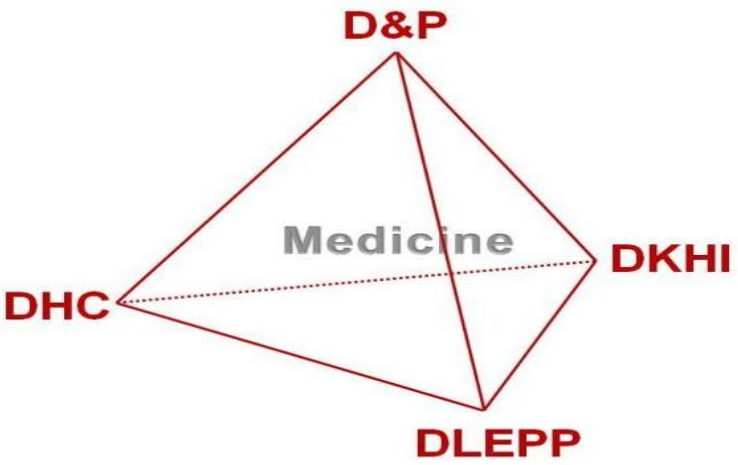
# Griffith University medical program

Our program is taught using four integrated themes:

- The Doctor and Knowledge of Health & Illness **(DKHI)**
- The Doctor, Law, Ethics and Professional Practice **(DLEPP)**
- The Doctor and Health of the Community **(DHC)**
- The Doctor and the Patient **(D&P)**

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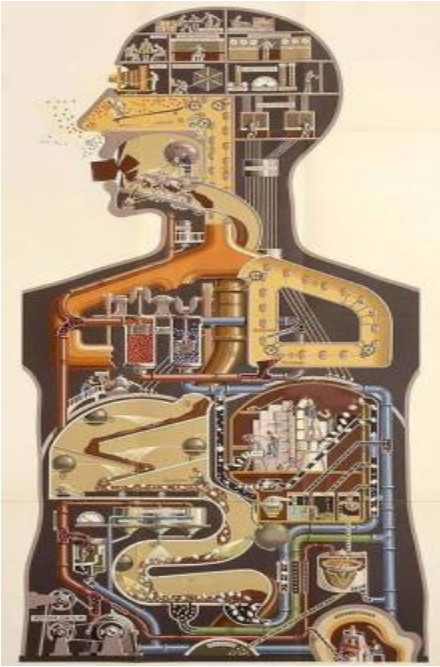
# The Doctor and the Knowledge of Health and Illness (DKHI)

- Focuses on understanding and applying the science on which the practice of medicine is based

- Anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, pathology, pharmacology, psychology …

- Learning facilitated through Problem Based Learning (PBL) in the first two years and Case Based Learning in years 3 & 4



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# The Doctor, Law, Ethics and Professional Practice (DLEPP)

- Focuses on the law and ethical principles that underpin medical practice
- Professional practice responsibilities and duties of medical practitioners

# The Doctor and Health of the Community (DHC)

- Focuses on the community and society aspects of medicine
- Public health, health promotion, epidemiology, the evidence base for medical interventions, primary health care
- Indigenous Health (with the First People's Health Unit)

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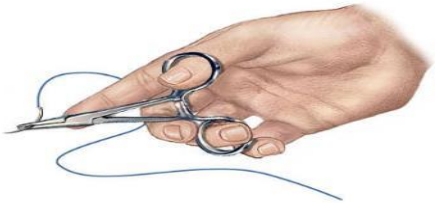
# The Doctor and Patient (D&P)

Focuses on the **skills** doctors use in their practice

- Communication and history skills
- Examination skills
- Diagnostic skills
- Procedural skills
- Counselling skills



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# Curriculum Improvement Process

There is currently a comprehensive review underway of the MD program including the structure, curriculum content, learning & teaching methods and assessment

- This is likely to lead to some major changes such as;
  - change in structure from (‘2 + 2’ years) to ‘phased’ approach
  - more use of ‘flipped classroom’
  - earlier clinical exposure
  - more structured transitions to clinical clerkships and internship
  - significant changes to assessment methods
- Planned introduction is 2021 (or possibly 2022)
- Anyone who enters the program before then will complete the current MD

# Thank You

**Open Day**
Sunday 11 August 2019
griffith.edu.au/open-day

**Domestic Admissions**
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medicine@griffith.edu.au
griffith.edu.au/apply

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