



WARWICK

MEDICAL SCHOOL

What if...  
my medical  
career starts here?

ACCELERATED GRADUATE-ENTRY  
MB ChB PROGRAMME PROSPECTUS



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“The thing I love the most about the MB ChB programme at Warwick is the diversity of the student population. There are so many different backgrounds and points of view, but we are all united by the desire to be good doctors and to learn as much as we can. We learn from each other and from the experiences we have as medical students, and the richness of backgrounds makes the process that much more fulfilling.”

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**John Flemming**  
Second year MB ChB student

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## Introduction from the Dean

# It gives me great pleasure to introduce our accelerated four year graduate-entry MB ChB (Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery) programme.

Our programme is designed exclusively for graduates and therefore provides an ideal environment for those with a mature attitude towards learning. Entry into our programme is very competitive. Your future classmates are likely to be exceptional men and women who will bring diverse personal backgrounds and life experiences to enrich your time at Warwick Medical School (WMS).

You will learn in a research-rich environment where our MB ChB teaching is delivered by outstanding clinicians and scientists. Our research is focused on delivering benefits for patients and the public with those common problems that are part of everyday work for practising doctors. This includes work on emergency care, musculoskeletal disorders, reproductive health, metabolic disorders, malignancy and mental health. We have now established our reputation for excellent health services research and our laboratory-based biomedical research areas are developing fast. Warwick Medical School (WMS) researchers collaborate widely across the University campus with departments such as WMG, Life Sciences, Chemistry, Systems Biology and Social Sciences as well as our partner NHS trusts and GP practices.

As a student of WMS, you will experience a wide range of clinical placements in the local area and graduate with the understanding, intellectual skills and attitudes to practise medicine and have a rewarding and fulfilling career. I hope that this prospectus will answer your questions about our MB ChB programme, and should you decide to join us, we will welcome and support you as you embark on this new, demanding but exciting stage in your career.

### **Professor Sudhesh Kumar**

Dean of Medicine, Warwick Medical School,  
The University of Warwick





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“At WMS we believe that students learn best by meeting, from early in the programme, patients, their families and the medical and other staff who care for patients at home and in hospital. At WMS, learning from patient cases in a variety of settings is a fundamental part of the programme. People often comment on how patient-centred our students are. Our students say this stems from their very early patient contact.”

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**Dr Clare Blackburn**  
Principal Teaching Fellow





## Our MB ChB programme

**Our accelerated graduate-entry MB ChB is a challenging but extremely rewarding programme. It's designed to help you become a highly competent, compassionate and motivated doctor. We won't pretend it isn't tough, after all we're committed to developing doctors with the highest standards of professionalism and patient care, yet this will only add to the rewarding feeling you will experience when you meet your first patient.**

Our distinctive programme is the largest graduate-entry course in the UK, with an intake of over 170 graduates each year. This means you'll be learning alongside like-minded, focused and motivated students, each bringing a wealth of experience and academic knowledge from their previous studies.

Not only is our course the largest graduate-entry in the UK, we're also the only medical school in the UK to teach with a complete collection of Gunther von Hagen's plastinated specimens. These prosections provide you with invaluable hands-on experience during your anatomy tuition.

We also teach you using fresh frozen cadaveric tissue. This enables you to gain a full understanding of anatomy and a familiarity with tissue consistency in a safe and supported environment. You are able to increase your confidence and skills in undertaking medical procedures prior to performing such interventions on real patients.

On our accelerated MB ChB programme, you'll complete your studies after four years at Warwick rather than five. This means the programme is fast-paced and our students have to be willing to work hard. There is plenty of support on hand though, from both the teaching team, and from cohorts further through the programme that organise revision sessions for all years.

At Warwick we also believe in the importance of early patient contact for our students. From the first term of your first year, you'll spend time out in the community meeting patients. By the end of your first year, you will have experienced learning on the wards of our partner hospitals with a clinical tutor developing and guiding your skills.



## Course structure

**Our curriculum is divided into three phases. Phase I is completed by the end of the first year. Phase II covers the next 12 months and Phase III is completed by the end of the fourth year.**

- ▶ Phase I aims to ensure that you understand the scientific basis of medicine. Teaching combines lectures and small group learning and is organised into five blocks: Health, Metabolism and Homeostasis; Blood, Lungs and Heart; Brain and Behaviour; Locomotion; Reproductive and Child Health. Through a case based learning approach you will learn to pull together scientific and medical knowledge to approach clinical problem solving.
- ▶ Phase II builds on the foundations of Phase I by introducing a series of more complex cases. You will gradually increase the time you spend learning in healthcare settings such as hospitals and GP practices and therefore will develop a deeper understanding of what patients and carers

expect and receive in both primary and secondary care settings. This Phase will allow the further development of the core skills and knowledge required of a junior doctor. During this Phase, you will also undertake a Student Selected Component from a range of optional topics such as British Sign Language, Introduction to Counselling and Pre-Hospital Trauma Care.

- ▶ Phase III sets learning in the context of a series of specialist blocks, further improving your skills, developing your professionalism and enhancing your knowledge around core subject areas. During this period you will also sit your final assessment, undertake an elective and work in the role of a foundation doctor (FY1) during the assessment period.

Our course specification is reviewed regularly by the General Medical Council (GMC) and the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).



## What our students say

If you want to hear more from our students, visit our Med Life blog: [blogs.warwick.ac.uk/mbchbstudents/](https://blogs.warwick.ac.uk/mbchbstudents/).

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“I was largely attracted to the fact that here at Warwick, and specifically in the Medical School, students aren’t merely numbers. Academics actively take an interest in your progress and seek to adapt their teaching styles to the needs of a particular year group.

Working in small groups helps you to think for yourself. It’s especially useful when the group members are from different academic backgrounds as you see the same scenario from different perspectives.”

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**Surag Khadka**  
Fourth year MB ChB student





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“Studying medicine is like being a scientific detective! All of the anatomy and biochemistry you learn comes together to help you interpret clinical conditions. That means it is important to keep up to date with your work - luckily it’s all hugely interesting and there are always staff on hand to help. I particularly enjoy the group work sessions because it gives you the opportunity to learn from your peers too.”

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**Haddy Cosh**  
Fourth year MB ChB student

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“When I attained my place at WMS, after having spent a year working, I was initially quite anxious about going back to university and back to being a student. Within my first few weeks it became apparent that, as Warwick has a graduate-only intake, many people were in the same boat as me, and the cohort very quickly became a tight knit group. Overall, I think the different types of teaching offered - lectures, group work and practical sessions, provide something to suit most people’s learning styles. I think the early patient contact really helped me to apply what I was learning to real life and helped me realise that I had made the right choice to come to Warwick.”

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**Josie Hough**  
Fourth year MB ChB student

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“I’m having a great time being a medical student; there is a huge range of societies and activities to get involved in at the University, and the medics have their own sports teams to help fit playing sport around a busy lifestyle. The wide range of teaching and learning methods at WMS ensures there is a style to suit everyone. I really enjoyed early patient contact. Learning more about how illness affects patients has been an insightful experience and helps you to understand their illness on a more personal level.”

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**Henry Roscoe**  
Fourth year MB ChB Student

## The Clinical environment

To ensure you get the most out of your learning our programme offers significant time spent in NHS and Primary Care settings. In the local area we have four partner hospitals and numerous partner GP practices that students learn and practise in.

### **University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW), Coventry**

Based seven miles from WMS, UHCW is one of the largest acute teaching hospitals in the UK. It has over 25 operating theatres and over 1,000 beds; it is also home to the Surgical Training Centre, an environment where students can learn operative techniques on cadaveric material in a mock operating theatre setting. UHCW also hosts a range of state-of-the-art equipment used to teach clinical skills, including a life-sized talking dummy patient called Sim Man.

### **George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton**

George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust is a single site hospital on the outskirts of Nuneaton, and is 12 miles from WMS. The hospital serves a population of approximately 250,000 from the surrounding areas of Nuneaton and Bedworth, North Warwickshire, South West Leicestershire and Northern Coventry.

### **South Warwickshire Foundation Trust (SWFT), Warwick**

Eight miles from WMS is Warwick Hospital, situated in the Northwest of Warwick. Servicing a population of approximately 270,000, Warwick Hospital provides inpatient, outpatient and diagnostic services. It also hosts a purpose-built Education Centre with a clinical skills room specifically for WMS students.

### **Alexandra Hospital, Redditch**

28 miles from WMS, Alexandra Hospital in Redditch is a district general hospital providing care to the people of Redditch, Bromsgrove, South Birmingham and parts of Warwickshire. It is one of three hospitals in Worcestershire and is the countywide specialist centre for Urology.

### **Our partner GP practices**

There's nothing quite like meeting patients face-to-face to help cement the knowledge and skills you've learnt through lectures and your case-based studies. We work with over 60 GP practices, to ensure you get the opportunity to learn in a primary care setting. These practices are linked with three local trusts: UHCW, SWFT and George Eliot Hospital.





## Student support

Throughout your studies at WMS, you will have access to a great deal of support and guidance. Our student support system is tailored to your changing needs as you progress through the MB ChB course.

In Phase I you will be assigned a personal tutor who will meet you in induction week and then every term until the beginning of Phase II. During the first part of Phase II your personal tutor will work with you to devise a handover to a clinical personal tutor. Your clinical personal tutor will act as your main point of contact for the second part of Phase II and all of Phase III, and will help you review your progress and identify any learning targets.

### **Other support available throughout the programme includes:**

- ▶ The full range of Warwick's student support services, including: Counselling Services, Students' Union Advice Centre, Mental Health Co-ordinators, Chaplaincy, Disability Services and many more.
- ▶ The MB ChB Office, incorporating the administrative teams for Phase I, II and III.
- ▶ An excellent peer support network with student welfare representatives, peer teachers and specialist peer mentors.
- ▶ Support in the Trusts: Undergraduate administrative staff, consultants linked to medical education and Associate Clinical Directors.
- ▶ A careers office dedicated to supporting students planning the next steps of their career.

**Our student support system is tailored to your changing needs as you progress through the MB ChB course.**





## Student Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC)

To ensure your views are represented during your time at WMS, we've put in place a number of events and the SSLC. Current MB ChB student, Gareth Knott, shares his experience as Chair of the SSLC and explains the purpose of the group:

Life at medical school is tough, and it is absolutely right for medical students to demand excellent experiences, education, facilities and support. Furthermore, change is especially fast at medical school and it is important that we have both responsive students and a responsive faculty. Therefore it is essential to create a highly effective dialogue between staff and students. The SSLC provides the platform for this. The simple phrase "you said, we did..." encapsulates the aim of the SSLC: to get the views of students out there and to ensure that they are listened to, acted upon and that these actions are fed back to students.

The SSLC itself is a committee made up of medical students and members of staff. Students are elected from each year group and act as representatives of their year group. A student representative then has the responsibility of gathering the views of their cohort and working with staff to ensure students get the most out of their medical degree.

## Breakfast with the Dean

During your time at WMS you will be invited to Breakfast with the Dean events. This is an opportunity to meet with the Dean and some of the School's senior team and share your experiences of the course with them over coffee and a croissant. At WMS, we're keen to ensure that we take on board all feedback from students, both positive and relating to areas for improvement. These events give you the opportunity to suggest ideas and ask any questions you may have.

## Personal and Professional Development

While studying for your MB ChB, you will build a portfolio showing evidence of your personal and professional development. In lectures and in group sessions with your peers, you will explore topics such as teamwork, managing complexity, careers, teaching skills, and much more. This part of our curriculum encourages you to reflect on your own development - to think not only about being a doctor, but also about how you fit into the world of healthcare as a whole.



## Fees and accommodation

Tuition fees for 2017/2018 students for the first year of the MB ChB programme will be **£9,000** for Home/EU students and **£19,400** for international students.

Students will be required to self-fund the first **£3,465** of tuition costs and can apply for a tuition fee loan from the Student Loans Company (SLC) to cover the difference between **£3,465** and the tuition charge of **£9,000**.

In years two to four of study, the Department of Health will pay **£3,465** towards the cost of tuition fees for students ordinarily residing in

England and Wales. An SLC tuition fee loan can again be applied for to cover the difference between **£3,465** and the University's tuition charge. For international students the fees for years two, three and four are **£33,820**.

Students with children will be eligible for targeted support such as a childcare grant or Parents' Learning Allowance.

In addition to your tuition fees, you will need to consider funding for your accommodation, travel to your placements and general living costs during the programme.





**Please note: Fees may rise annually in line with inflation; please visit our website for up-to-date information on fees for future cohorts: [warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/applying/fees/](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/applying/fees/).**

**For enquiries regarding fees and funding, please contact the Student Funding Office on +44 (0)24 7615 0096 or by email at [studentfunding@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:studentfunding@warwick.ac.uk).**

Although the majority of our students opt to live off campus in one of the surrounding towns or cities, there is accommodation available for first year WMS students on campus.

All campus rooms are self-catering and are managed by an in-house residential team to help support students. More information about campus accommodation can be found online: [warwick.ac.uk/services/accommodation/studentaccommodation/](https://warwick.ac.uk/services/accommodation/studentaccommodation/).

For those who decide to live off-campus, Coventry, Leamington Spa and Kenilworth offer efficient bus and cycle routes to the University campus and a wide variety of entertainment, shopping and dining.

# Student highlights

## Fresher's week diary

Well, this week I started medical school! It'd be great to say we saw patients on day one, ordered our first X-rays, cured cancer... instead it involved introductory lectures on welfare and what being a medical student actually entails. Hint: it's not curing cancer. Yet. Of course, we sign up for this long journey towards becoming doctors because we want to help patients directly, but it was driven home that to do this you need to be looking after your own health and wellbeing first. It's not just a recommendation either; today we signed our student contracts which, amongst many other things, require us to stay on top of our health and to report any problems to the Medical School. Nonetheless, it was pretty cool to be sitting in the lecture theatre with my peers, all acutely aware of what we've got ourselves into.

Tuesday we had our first couple of lectures - introductions to cells and organelles and met our case based learning groups, around which a large part of our course is tailored. Tuesday evening we got to meet our medic 'parents' for the first time, who, we've been assured, will be our Lords and Saviours for the next year! I'm pretty excited about spending time with the second years who take up a lot of their time contributing to our teaching, which is quite a neat aspect of Warwick's course. It'll be great to have their input on how we can focus our learning effectively.

Whilst this week has been a relatively gentle introduction into med school life for a biomed

graduate like myself, we're under no illusions as to the scope and breadth of work facing us from next week. How many lectures, you ask? 15 lectures and a group session over three and a half days.

Then we have an additional day where we'll be spending our time at University Hospital of Coventry and Warwickshire (UHCW) to learn clinical skills and anatomy. This is a really cool feature of the course, where we get to look at (outrageously expensive) plastinated body tissues to learn anatomy. It's consolidated by radiology teaching and then we try to apply our new anatomy knowledge to a relevant clinical skill. This term we're focusing on Health, Metabolism and Homeostasis, which ultimately means we're studying the entire abdomen, thyroid and a few other bits and pieces. Therefore, by the end of term we should be able to take good histories and carry out examinations in this area. The pace is incredibly daunting, but the support network in the Medical School seems really good.

It's not all hard work. Thankfully on Thursday night we got the chance to unwind at Doctors and Nurses night at Kasbah nightclub. And, this evening we do get a final chance to unwind as a group with the Freshers' ball, our first black tie event! I've seen pictures from previous years and it looks like a great chance to meet students again outside of a work environment.

**Matt Kneale**  
First year MB ChB student



## Year one Anatomy Masterclass (Grenada, Caribbean)

One of the highlights of an amazing first year at Warwick was the anatomy teaching on the course. It was something I'd always been fascinated in, and I and 23 other first year students were lucky enough to travel to St George's University in Grenada for a five week 'Anatomy Masterclass'.

Selection for the trip takes place earlier in the year with a short anatomy exam. Many of the questions consisted of identifying various pieces of anatomy from pictures of plastinations and some clinical imaging, providing a useful tool to test some knowledge before the summative exams at the end of the year. A couple of weeks later Dr Tunstall (Head of Anatomy) sent out an email inviting those who achieved the top 24 results to Grenada for the masterclass.

We flew out just after the end of year exam results and had a few days to relax on the beach and explore the island (here we discovered how many people you can squeeze into a car - it's about 17).

Our work consisted of tutorials on some new topics that hadn't been covered in the first year, but mostly focused on cadaveric dissection. This was a real test of anatomical knowledge and I found it reinforced what I

had learnt previously but was also a great platform for covering new anatomy and developing dissection skills, such as scalpel techniques and incisions. As well as learning we took the opportunity to teach each other about the work that we were carrying out. Our working day started at 8:30am and usually finished at 4:00pm with most Fridays being half days, allowing us some extra time to soak up the sun.

From our colleagues who had visited the previous year we acquired knowledge of the places to be for pretty much every night of the week. Whether it was crab racing or trying to win some livestock at bingo, there was always fun to be had. We spent the weekends exploring and seeing the sights of the island, including a number of beautiful waterfalls, a chocolate factory and, of course, a rum distillery. The trip was an amazing opportunity to explore anatomy in more depth, learn valuable skills for the future and experience an amazing culture.

**Josh Nicholls**  
Second year MB ChB student

# The Elective

For six weeks in your fourth year you will undertake your medical elective. This is an opportunity to explore an area of medicine of your choice in depth. Many of our students opt to take their electives outside the UK to observe how medicine is practised in another country and to experience a different social and cultural environment.

In the past our students have undertaken elective projects in locations such as India, Cambodia and Tonga. Electives have ranged from hands-on clinical experience and health education projects to scientific studies and audits. We place a high emphasis on pre-elective preparation, as well as reflection, to ensure you gain the most from your experience.

## **Aerospace Medicine**

Thomas Salisbury

I undertook my elective, at the John Ernsting Aerospace Physiology Laboratory, Micro G, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS), in Brazil. I spent the majority of my time in the laboratory and was also fortunate enough to visit surrounding hospitals and be involved in various projects the laboratory undertook.

The main aims with my elective, were to experience the unique speciality of aerospace medicine; improve knowledge regarding human physiology in extreme conditions (e.g. micro gravity); gain experience in lab-based

research and a publication in this field; and to understand and adapt to the multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary academic team environment.

The work in Micro G has provided me with unique knowledge that I would never have been able to acquire anywhere else, and has additionally provided me with an entry point into aerospace medicine. Aerospace medicine is a truly fascinating subject which is rapidly developing and, as unrealistic as it may seem I believe, assuming humanity survives long enough, it is our destiny to leave the planet and explore the stars. I am incredibly honoured to have been able to participate in research that will one day - in a very tiny way - help humanity in this endeavour.

To read the elective stories in full and find out about other MB ChB students' elective experiences please visit our website: [warwick.ac.uk/mbchb\\_electives](http://warwick.ac.uk/mbchb_electives)

Essex and Herts Ambulance Trust  
Lucy Darwin

I decided to apply for an elective with an Air Ambulance Trust as I was intrigued by the field of pre-hospital medicine and was also considering a career in anaesthetics. I was delighted when Essex and Herts offered me the elective and was proud of the fact that I would be spending six weeks, with the air ambulance. I prepared myself for the prospect of attending to critically ill patients in a variety of situations which up until now I had no thorough experience of.

My role was that of observer, but I was considered very much part of the team. I was expected to participate in all the activities of the team and be asked to assist on scene, strictly within my capabilities.

One of many learning points from working in this field was remembering that you work in a public space where your actions, body language and facial expressions are picked up on by the general public, the patient's family and friends. I learnt that no matter how panicked and unsure you are feeling on the inside you must display a calm and composed manner on the outside. I left the placement feeling inspired and privileged that I was able to observe, practise and learn from this unique team.

I personally confronted a whole range of emotions and stressful situations, which I had not experienced during my hospital placements so far. I was introduced to several concepts and attitudes towards working I had not encountered before. The highlight for me was the job in which I was able to assist a pre-hospital thoracotomy procedure.



## Medicine in Zambia 2015

Rebecca Moore

I knew that I always wanted to undertake my elective in a third world country where medical conditions are completely different to the UK and chose to spend my time in Chikankata Missionary Hospital in Zambia. The hospital serves a catchment of 100,000 people but also receives referrals from all over Zambia. It is a 200 bed hospital with only five doctors. A major issue is the significant gap between funding and the money needed to run the hospital. Consequently the hospital has minimal resources.

For example, there was one X-ray machine, no CT/MRI and only a small number of blood tests available. Many invasive procedures are undertaken with patient 'co-operation' rather than anaesthesia, families provide their own meals for patients and infectious patients remain on the ward.

I learned to only order investigations where I knew I could alter the management plan. As there were only minimal investigations available a thorough history was needed in order to make a logical diagnosis. This helped improve my ability in questioning patients when taking a history back in the UK. Amongst my many varied experiences, I was lucky enough to attend a number of doctor's outreach trips where one doctor and six nurses visited villages within the African bush. These monthly visits were popular amongst locals needing medical attention. The main conditions were anaemia, diabetes, tuberculosis and HIV complications. As the latter two conditions are relatively rare in the UK I was able to ask the doctor questions and broaden my medical knowledge in these areas.

My time in Zambia was unforgettable. I have gained confidence, medical knowledge and understand more clearly the importance of a good doctor-patient relationship, confidentiality and patient education.

## Peruvian Amazon Elective

Adam Pearce

My elective period was spent working with a small NGO named DB Peru who carry out the majority of their work in the Amazon river basin in north-east Peru. Their work consists of many aspects of healthcare, including provision of medical supplies, running of village-based medical and dental clinics, delivery of screening programmes, as well as a large focus on healthcare education.

I chose this particular Elective to see first-hand the full range of activities involved in delivering humanitarian healthcare to people in such a remote setting. I also had the option to visit and participate in delivery of care within Peru's national healthcare system which I knew would give me a better chance to witness the full range of healthcare that people living in this region have available to them.

During my work with DB Peru I undertook a number of assignments, including; delivery of medical clinics - both village-based and at a local government-run Health Centre, organisation and delivery of teaching for local health workers, and planning and delivery of a village-based research questionnaire on women's health issues.

Outside of my work with the NGO, I also made time to engage in some social and welfare-based activities. This included voluntary work over the Easter holiday at an Orphanage / Residence for socially disadvantaged children.

I feel very privileged to have spent time working with DB Peru in this fantastic part of the world. I feel that I became a much-valued team member. I learned a lot about my ability to do this sort of work, and appreciate the role that humanitarian healthcare can play alongside national services in remote settings. I look forward to the opportunity to return to Peru in the not-too-distant future.

## Applying to WMS

### Entry requirements

#### Academic Qualifications

To apply for our MB ChB you should have, or be predicted to gain, a minimum of an upper second-class honours (2:1) degree (or overseas equivalent) in any subject. Candidates with a lower second-class degree should also hold either a Master's or a Doctoral qualification to be considered for entry to the MB ChB.

We do not consider your A-level and GCSE examination results. Please note that any pending postgraduate qualifications must be fully completed prior to the course start date with no exceptions.

During the selection process, you will be awarded points for your highest achieved academic qualification. You will only receive points for PhD and Master's qualifications that have been completed and awarded by the application closing date.



## Work experience

It's essential that our students are able to acquire the values of the NHS, such as commitment to quality of care, respect and dignity and working together for patients. This means we look for applicants who have already had experience of working within a people-focused environment, as this will provide a better understanding of the demands of a medical career.

This could be voluntary work in a nursing home, care home or hospice or a professional healthcare role or volunteer role within a hospital. As a general rule, what you have learnt from your experience is more important than the overall length of time you spent. However, we do expect to see a minimum of two weeks full-time (70 hours) completed within the two years before your application and by your application deadline.

When considering your work experience, our selection team will look for evidence of:

- ▶ Your experience of a healthcare environment, ideally that of today's NHS
- ▶ Your understanding of what it means to be a member of the medical profession
- ▶ Your experience of providing personal care to individuals outside of the family
- ▶ A named contact at your place of work experience

We fully support the principles in The Medical Schools Council's guidelines on work experience and you may like to read these for further information about what we expect and why: [warwick.ac.uk/mbchb\\_entryreqs/workexp\\_guidelines.pdf](http://warwick.ac.uk/mbchb_entryreqs/workexp_guidelines.pdf)

If you're shortlisted, you will be required to provide us with details and verification of your work experience placements, such as references. You'll also be asked to reflect on your work experience, drawing out what you have learned about your own abilities and what is required of someone aiming to be a doctor.





## Your reference

You will need to provide us with one reference from a person (not a relative) who holds, or has held a position of responsibility, and who can comment on your suitability for studying medicine. If you've been in higher education during the last two years you should provide an academic referee. Your reference will not form a central part of the selection process, but will be considered before we make you an offer.

We recognise that it can be difficult to obtain academic references, especially if you finished your studies some time ago. If you graduated more than two academic years ago, you may substitute an academic reference with one from an employer (this must be an employer you have worked for within the last two years).

Your reference should comment on:

- ▶ How prepared you are to study medicine
- ▶ Your potential for studying a full-time accelerated graduate-entry level programme
- ▶ Your engagement with and success in tackling new and challenging learning opportunities
- ▶ Your predicted grade\* (if you have not yet graduated)

\* Your predicted grade should be from a member of academic staff at your current institution. Your referee should indicate your predicted grade in the relevant section of the UCAS form and not in the text of the reference. If you fail to provide us with a suitable prediction from a suitable referee, we may withdraw your application.

# How to apply

Applications should be submitted through the Universities Central Admissions Service (UCAS) and must reach UCAS by the deadline 15 October the year before your planned entry to the programme. Applications by any other route, or submitted after the deadline, will not be accepted. We do not accept deferred entry or transfers from other programmes.

## UKCAT

As part of the application process you will be required to take the United Kingdom Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT), or if appropriate, the UKCATSEN (if you have a disability). UKCAT testing is available worldwide and therefore we do not normally accept exemptions on geographical grounds.

We advise you to register for the test at your earliest opportunity. This way, if you have a problem on the day of the test, for example, ill health, you will be able to sit the test again before the deadline. We do not currently consider the Situational Judgement section of the test. Any changes to this decision will be published on our website.

Please note that the total UKCAT score required to secure a place at our Selection Centre varies year on year. It is dependent upon the UKCAT performance of all applicants to WMS. For example, a downward shift in overall UKCAT scores could result in a lower UKCAT score being required to achieve a place at our Selection Centre, compared to previous years.

## Personal Statement

Your UCAS personal statement will not form a part of the entry selection process for our MB ChB programme.

## Selection Centre

Those who are successful at application stage will be invited to participate in our Selection Centre. This will involve six Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs). The key competencies we look for are:

- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Empathy
- ▶ Insight
- ▶ Probity
- ▶ Resilience
- ▶ Respect and dignity
- ▶ Team working

You will be observed and scored by trained assessors from a range of backgrounds including medical professionals, academics and lay people with an interest in medical education. Scores for each exercise are combined and applicants achieving the highest total scores will be made an offer.

## International Students

Warwick Medical School is permitted by the Department of Health to admit a certain number of international candidates each year. They are required to meet the same entry criteria and go through the same process as Home/EU candidates, and must satisfy the University that their standard of English is acceptable for study. Further information on English language requirements is on our website: [warwick.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/english/](http://warwick.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/english/).

## Communicable disease status and immunisations

The Department of Health requires all new healthcare workers, including students, be tested for HIV, Hepatitis C and Hepatitis B carrier status before involvement in Exposure Prone Procedures (EPP) such as specific activities within operating theatres and accident and emergency pre-hospital trauma. Although the GMC states that EPP experience is no longer necessary to qualify, and therefore not a curriculum requirement, students are still likely to have opportunities to get involved in such procedures.

Therefore, to be cleared for EPP involvement, students will be tested to establish that they are not infected with HIV, Hepatitis C or Hepatitis B. This is additional to tests to establish tuberculosis status, which is required to clear the student for general patient contact. All testing must be managed by the WMS Occupational Health Specialist who will supervise pre and post-test counselling and discussions, the performance of the test and the recording of outcomes, and ensure conformance with standards for clearance of all healthcare workers.

More information about health testing can be found on our website: [warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/applying/additional/](http://warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/applying/additional/).

## Disclosure and Barring Service

As part of ensuring the fitness to practise of our students, all applicants who are offered a place at WMS will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). All universities who offer courses involving contact with children or vulnerable adults are required to carry out DBS checks of potential students. The University DBS team will send you details and co-ordinate this process.

Any information, which comes as part of the disclosure, will be treated in confidence. The disclosure of a previous conviction would not necessarily preclude an applicant from enrolling on the course.



## Life at WMS

Although our programme is fast-paced, life at medical school isn't all about academic work. There's a lot more to squeeze into your busy schedule.



## The Campus

The University of Warwick campus is beautiful in all senses of the word; 'picturesque' just doesn't quite cover it. However, in the spirit of not just being a 'pretty face', we have made sure to provide you with everything you could possibly need whilst studying with us and spending time on campus. As well as a cinema and theatre, there is a range of cafes, shops, restaurants and bars on hand.

At the heart of our campus is the Piazza with its own outdoor 5.5m big screen. Whether you're a fan of classics like *Back to the Future*, live on-screen performances of *Romeo and Juliet* (ballet) or you just want to watch Wimbledon, there's always something to see.

Another great excuse to head to the Piazza is our monthly market days. With an array of local, fresh produce and a mix of street food stalls, market days on campus are always busy and sociable events.

Micro markets also pop up at the Medical School; so even if you're too busy to head down to the Piazza, you'll still get the chance to experience the culinary delights of a range of our street food stalls.

A highlight of the Warwick campus is our sculpture trail. With a total of 15 sculptures spread across the campus, it's a great way to explore and get to know the area. The sculptures form part of the University's art collection, which holds over 800 pieces including items from 1965, when the University was founded.

## UniCycles

Imagine conveniently picking up a bike to cycle across campus. UniCycles at Warwick is a new self-service bike hire scheme, run in partnership with Nextbikes, available across campus 24/7. Whether you pay an annual subscription or pay-as-you-go, you'll have access to one of 50 bikes situated at our Coventry campus. If you want to spend more time exploring or exercising, you can also make additional payments to go that little bit further. To find out more, visit:

[warwick.ac.uk/unicycles](http://warwick.ac.uk/unicycles)

## Student Societies

The University is home to over 250 societies covering the most diverse interests - politics, sports, campaigning, music, drama, volunteering and much more. However, as our students lead such busy lives, they've set up many of their own societies too. MedSoc (The University of Warwick Medical Society) represents all students at WMS, organises numerous social events, such as the annual winter and summer balls, and raises money for charity. MedSoc also provides lots of peer support such as the medic-parent scheme, peer-to-peer teaching and a welfare team.

Then there's the WMS Surgical Society, the Warwick Medics Rugby Football Club, the Teddy Bear Hospital, Warwick Medics Hockey and the Warwick Medical School Singers. The list is endless. For more information about the many WMS societies visit our website:

[warwick.ac.uk/mbchb\\_soc](http://warwick.ac.uk/mbchb_soc).

### Warwick Sports

Warwick Sport supports 76 sports clubs as well as organising a wide range of exercise classes and sports courses. From boot camp and pilates to golf lessons and rock climbing, you're sure to find something you enjoy. There's also a selection of running routes on campus, ranging from 3km to 5km - perfect for a quick lunchtime jog.

[warwick.ac.uk/sportatwarwick](http://warwick.ac.uk/sportatwarwick)

### Warwick Arts Centre

Right in the thick of it we have Warwick Arts Centre. This exciting, cultural venue is based on central campus. The Arts Centre holds two theatres, a newly refurbished concert hall holding 1,500 people, a cinema and art gallery. It hosts both national and international dramas, comedy and dance. It's also home to a range of music from contemporary pop to classical.

[warwickartscentre.co.uk](http://warwickartscentre.co.uk)

### Students' Union

Our Students' Union hosts a range of events including quizzes, musical performances, indoor markets, comedy nights and much more.

[warwicksu.com](http://warwicksu.com)

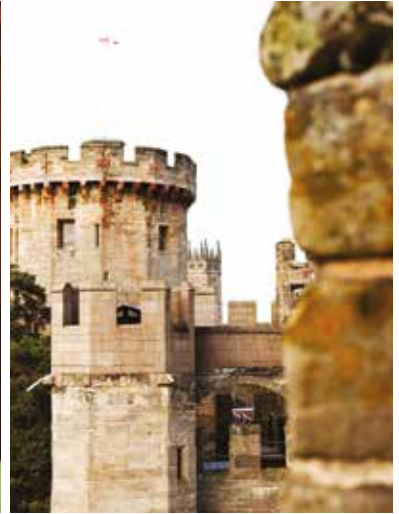
### The University Library

Our Library provides you with access to a range of resources to assist with your studies, including around 80,000 e-books, 48,000 electronic journals and a number of electronic databases. This includes specialist medical databases, such as Medline, Scopus and the Web of Science.

The Library also runs the Biomed Grid that is based within the Medical School building. This space is specifically set up for medical students and saves you the trip down to central campus to study when your time is limited.



# The local area



Situated in the heart of England, WMS is located on the border of Coventry and Warwickshire, providing easy access to the city of Birmingham and the beautiful, historic towns of Warwick, Kenilworth, Royal Leamington Spa and Stratford-upon-Avon.

Coventry is our closest city and offers a wide range of entertainment and attractions. The Ricoh Arena is home to Coventry City Football Club and the Wasps Rugby Football Club, as well as regularly staging large music performances. The Belgrade Theatre offers a wide choice of live theatrical entertainment and the city centre boasts a great selection of pubs, restaurants, clubs and shops. The city is also rich in history and culture, with its Cathedral being named as the third most influential landmark of 21st century Britain (*The Independent*).

The medieval towns of Warwick and Kenilworth are also nearby, and are both home to historic castles as well a variety

of independent boutiques and cafes. The birthplace of playwright William Shakespeare, Stratford-Upon-Avon, is approximately 30 minutes by car from the University and is home to the Royal Shakespeare Company. Royal Leamington Spa is also on our doorstep. Its mix of Georgian and Edwardian architecture, award-winning parks, rich selection of restaurants, bars, shops and pubs and its annual Food Festival ensure it's an excellent place to be.

The metropolitan buzz of England's second city, Birmingham, which is 25 minutes by train from Coventry, should also not be overlooked. Birmingham features a rich mix of culture, sports teams, shopping and entertainment. The attractions include the £189m state-of-the-art library, Bullring shopping centre, the National Exhibition Centre (NEC) and the National Indoor Arena (NIA), Symphony Hall, and the International Convention Centre to name but a few. Birmingham is also the home of Cadbury's chocolate!





# Graduation

Graduation is a very special time for you and us. As your teachers and supporters we are very proud to see each cohort fulfill its potential and move into foundation year study. In celebration each year we hold a breakfast event for graduands and their families on the morning of the graduation ceremony, where we award prizes to those students who have achieved honours degrees, excelled in particular areas of their study, their contributions to student life and achievements in other areas alongside their academic work.

There is also a lunchtime celebration event where all graduates are invited with their families to join the Dean and members of the faculty for a buffet and catch up with friends before taking the next steps in their medical career.

## After Graduation

After completing your MB ChB, your next step will be a two-year Foundation Programme of general clinical training. This is required before graduates can fully register with the General Medical Council (GMC). You will apply for your Foundation Year 1 (F1) post in the autumn of your final year at WMS.

For the Coventry and Warwickshire area, this Foundation Training Programme is organised by the West Midlands Deanery, with which WMS has close links. Many of our students remain in the area to complete this period of further training. You will emerge from your Foundation Years as a generic doctor, ready to move into your chosen field of specialism. This may be with the NHS, perhaps working in a hospital specialising in surgery or psychiatry, or after further training, you may wish to work as a general practitioner. Other opportunities may lead you to specialise in pathology or medical research. Alternatively, you may wish to use your knowledge outside the NHS - perhaps with the armed forces, the police service or within the academic world.

International students will be eligible to apply for leave to remain in the UK to undertake the Foundation Programme and therefore to register with the General Medical Council. Following completion of the Foundation Programme, if you wish to remain in the UK, then you will be required to switch into another category of the Immigration Rules, such as the work permit system. Further information can be found at: [gmc-uk.org](http://gmc-uk.org).

For a downloadable version of *The Rough Guide to the Foundation Programme*, and information on Modernising Medical Careers visit: [specialitytraining.hee.nhs.uk](http://specialitytraining.hee.nhs.uk)

# Information for applicants

**At the end of the undergraduate course you will receive your MB ChB (or equivalent) degree, which is a primary medical qualification (PMQ). Holding a PMQ entitles you to provisional registration with the General Medical Council, subject only to its acceptance that there are no Fitness to Practise concerns that need consideration. Provisional registration is time-limited to a maximum of three years and 30 days (1125 days in total). After this time period your provisional registration will normally expire.**

Provisionally registered doctors can only practise in approved Foundation Year 1 posts: the law does not allow provisionally registered doctors to undertake any other type of work. To obtain a Foundation Year 1 post you will need to apply during the final year of your undergraduate course through the UK Foundation Programme Office selection scheme, which allocates these posts to graduates on a competitive basis. So far, all suitably qualified UK graduates have found a place on the Foundation Year 1 programme, but this cannot be guaranteed, for instance, if there were to be an increased number of competitive applications from non-UK graduates.

Successful completion of the Foundation Year 1 programme is normally achieved within 12 months and is marked by the award of a Certificate of Experience. You will then be eligible to apply for full registration with the General Medical Council. You need full registration with a Licence to Practise for unsupervised medical practice in the NHS or private practice in the UK.

Although this information is currently correct, you need to be aware that regulations in this area may change from time to time.

There is some discussion about whether to remove provisional registration for newly qualified doctors. If this happens, then UK graduates will receive full registration as soon as they have successfully completed an MB ChB (or equivalent) degree. You should note that it is very likely that UK graduates will still need to apply for a training programme similar to the current Foundation Programme and that places on this programme may not be guaranteed for every UK graduate.

In addition, the GMC is currently considering whether to introduce a formal assessment that all doctors would need to pass in order to be granted full registration. Although no firm decision has been taken as to whether or when such an exam will be introduced, you should be aware that the GMC envisages that future cohorts of medical students will need to pass parts of a new UK Medical Licensing Assessment before the GMC will grant them Registration with a Licence to Practise.

# What our graduates say

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"I am very proud to have graduated from Warwick Medical School. I had a fabulous four years and think that the course prepared me well for Foundation Training. I would recommend it to anyone, and have done so on numerous occasions."

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**Dr Alisa Tucker**  
Graduated from WMS in 2011

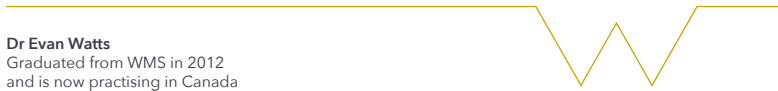


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"Every student who has dreamed of becoming a doctor will know that it is not easy. Being part of a course that is centred on excellence and early clinical placement has helped me to gain the knowledge and necessary skills for my career. If you have the passion to improve people's lives, and develop your skills to the highest standards, then Warwick Medical School is a fantastic place."

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**Dr Evan Watts**  
Graduated from WMS in 2012  
and is now practising in Canada





## Where are they now?

Two MB ChB graduates share their career experiences to date

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"I opted to study Human Biology as my undergraduate degree, as I'd always enjoyed science and had no idea what to do with my life. When I graduated I worked in the NHS doing several jobs and a Registrar on the wards suggested I apply for medicine. I never thought I stood a chance of getting in, but I applied anyway. The rest is, of course, history.

In my first year after leaving Warwick I worked in a hospital in London. It was a really well supported hospital, which meant I never felt out of my depth. I worked on a breast surgery rotation, with a mixture of ward jobs such as looking after patients following major breast operations and also spending time scrubbed-in in theatre assisting with breast surgery.

Career paths are always subject to change, but as it stands I think I'd like to focus on Cardiology. I like that patients come in with a problem and you can fix it to the point they can often leave hospital in a far better state than they came in."

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**Dr Ed Collins**

Graduated from WMS in 2014 and won the WPH Charitable Trust Gold Medal for the student who had the highest total percentage for written and clinical exams; the Faculty of Medicine Clinical Prize alongside a fellow student, and the M & J McCarthy Prize for Consistent Performance.

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“I studied at WMS from 2005 to 2009 after doing Biomedical Science in Queen’s University in Belfast. I have always wanted to be a doctor since I was a small child and my four years at Warwick were among the best times of my life.

Since leaving WMS I did my Foundation Year’s Training in Coventry and Warwickshire. Then I was fortunate enough to get a training post in Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery. After a year I decided I wanted to switch to general practice. This was simply because I loved the general practice placement in my last year of Foundation Training and thought I would make a better GP than I would a surgeon! At the same time I was asked by Coventry RFC to work for them as their doctor, after I’d refereed them one evening and one of their players was badly hurt and needed treatment. I found this role really interesting and enjoyed the balance of acute trauma injuries along with the medical side of looking after the players. It also fitted in well with my GP training.

A highlight in my career so far was definitely the summer of 2014. I got a role as one of the field-of-play medical leads for the athletics at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. I saw, as well as looked after, some of the world’s best athletes. I’ve also been fortunate enough to be invited back to WMS to give a lecture for the Sports Medicine Society to share my experience as a sports medic with current students. It was great being back at the University and I really enjoyed seeing the student society start up. Next for me will be qualifying as a GP and hopefully starting a Master’s in Sports Medicine to add to my qualifications.”



## Open days

The best way to get a feel for life as a WMS student is to attend one of our open day events. We run these a few times each year, usually between February and July. Our open days give you the opportunity to meet teaching staff, chat to current students, see some of our teaching facilities, find out more about our curriculum, sample a clinical skills teaching session and view our plastinated specimens. You can come along for all or just part of the day and more information can be found on our website:

**[warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/applying/opendays](http://warwick.ac.uk/fac/med/study/ugr/applying/opendays).**

To enquire about the open days please contact:

**T: +44 (0)24 7615 0026** (Available between 8.00am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday)



## Key facts

UCAS code: A101

UCAS institution code: W20

UCAS deadline: October

**Minimum entry requirements:** At least a 2:1 Honours degree (or overseas equivalent)

**Duration:** 4 years

**Start date:** September

**Places available:** Over 170 places

**Athena SWAN**



The Athena SWAN recognises and celebrates employment practice for women working in science, medicine, engineering and technology in higher education. Our continuous commitment to providing an inclusive work environment to all members of staff and students was crucial in our journey to becoming the first medical school to receive the prestigious Bronze Award in 2012. In 2013, we were awarded the Silver Athena SWAN. We are very proud of these achievements, and so we try to continue our good work by making sure that each and every person at Warwick Medical School has the opportunity and means necessary to reach their full potential. This is one of the many things that make us stand out.

## Contact us

To enquire further about the course, entry requirements, application process or any admissions related query contact:

**+44 (0)24 7652 4585**

You can also find the answers to frequently asked questions at:

**[warwick.ac.uk/mbchb](http://warwick.ac.uk/mbchb)**



## Get to know us

To know more about life at WMS, including information about our events, student experiences and our latest research, connect with us on our social media networks:



**@warwickmedicalschoo**



**@warwickmed**



**warwickmedicalschoo**



**[blogs.warwick.ac.uk/mbchbstudents/](http://blogs.warwick.ac.uk/mbchbstudents/)**