



CLINICAL PHARMACY INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY

On the occasion of an educational visit from students of the College of Pharmacy at the University of Florida, USA the Department organised an International Seminar in Clinical Pharmacy. A total of ten students reading for a PharmD degree, led by Professor Jennifer Williams started their visit to European schools of pharmacy by visiting the Department of Pharmacy at the University of Malta. The event took place between the 8 and the 10 of May 2013.

The Minister for Health, Dr Godfrey Farrugia and the Rector of the University of Malta, Professor Juanito Camilleri welcomed the students from the College of Florida and the participants during the opening session. Professor Lilian M. Azzopardi, Head of Department of Pharmacy at the University of Malta and General Secretary for the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy presented an introduction into developments in pharmacy education in Europe. The seminar consisted of a number of workshops which included sessions at Mater Dei Hospital and patient interviews and discussions on aspects of clinical pharmacy education and clinical pharmacy service provision in Malta, in the USA and internationally. Professor Serracino Inglott presented developments in pharmacy education and research in Malta including an insight into historical aspects related to local pharmacy practice. Research studies in the area of clinical pharmacy which are currently being undertaken within the Department of Pharmacy were presented by pharmacy students and postgraduate students. The topics presented included Patient Management and Treatment in Rheumatology, Risk Management in Pharmacy, Patient Management in Cardiovascular diseases. The variety of topics presented the students from both Universities with an opportunity to discuss the latest and most upcoming aspects of clinical pharmacy.

An international pharmacy students evening was organised by the Malta Pharmaceutical Students Association and this

provided the opportunity for the students from Florida, pharmacy students from European Universities who are currently in Malta on an Erasmus mobility and pharmacy students and faculty from the University of Malta to interact in an informal setting with the Valletta harbour as a historical background.

The Seminar provided an opportunity for the students from Florida to experience clinical pharmacy developments in Malta and to understand our cultural and historical roots. It was an opportunity for students from the University of Malta to share their experiences and discuss aspects related to the progress of clinical pharmacy, such as the development of an international curriculum for clinical pharmacy, within an international perspective.

The one week intensive clinical pharmacy course for five pharmacists following a postgraduate course in clinical pharmacy at the University of Bari was organised for the third consecutive year in June 2013 at the Department of Pharmacy. The clinical pharmacy course was led by Lilian M. Azzopardi, Head of the Department together with academics, research staff and students from the Department of Pharmacy and the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery. Pharmacists Alison Anastasi, Maresca Attard Pizzuto, Marise Gauci, Louise Grech, Anthony Serracino Inglott and Francesca Wirth from the Department were course tutors. During the course, the Italian pharmacists had the opportunity to participate in supervised clinical pharmacy activities including ward rounds and outpatient clinic visits. The course was held at the Cardiology, Medicine and Rheumatology Departments at Mater Dei Hospital and at Karin Grech Rehabilitation Hospital. At the end of the course, the Italian students prepared and discussed patient case presentations identified during ward rounds during a seminar where course tutors and pharmacy practice tutor practitioners participated in the discussion.