



**Nicole Sankar**  
Year 3 Pharmacy

## Why study Pharmacy? And how has the journey been thus far?

I decided to pursue Pharmacy out of all the Healthcare related programmes because it excited me to learn about medications that can make huge impact on people's lives.

The curriculum is rigorous, and the level of knowledge and skills expected of pharmacy students is high. However, it has been a fulfilling journey of challenging myself out of my comfort zone. Embracing this journey with an open mindset has allowed me to experience the greatest growth over the past 3 years. I have also discovered new interests, such as learning new languages, which has enriched my university journey much more.

## What interests you most in your studies?

The integration between knowledge and application of medications excite me most. Being able to make the connections between the chemistry of a drug with its actual therapeutic purpose, and to see these medications make a difference in patients' lives fascinates me. I enjoy being able to see the real-life purpose of what I'm studying rather than just studying about abstract concepts.



Our compounding practical where we compounded a cream as a group





\* PECT = Pre-Employment Clinical Training

Our 1st PECT rotation at  
Bukit Batoh Polyclinic



**Apart from academic lessons, what other programmes did you participate in? And how did the experience(s) benefit you in your (a) personal growth and development, and (b) academic pursuits?**

In my 2nd year, I participated as a mentee in the INSPIRxE Mentorship Programme organised by NUS Pharmaceutical Society (NUSPS) Academic Committee and NUS Pharmacy Alumni Group. This 9-month programme connects Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Science students with NUS Pharmacy alumni that have both industry and clinical expertise via a group mentoring model. I was privileged to be attached to two mentors in different areas: Clinical Pharmacy and Industry Work. My mentors are passionate about pharmacy practice and they shared valuable first-hand advice for future practicing pharmacists that I would not have been able to learn in school.

**What other interesting activities did you partake in to further enrich your student life, e.g. extra-curricular activities on campus?**

I was a member of NUSPS 60th Pharmacy Profession Awareness Committee (PPAC) where I helped to facilitate various outreach events organised by the Department. I was also in the NUSPS Galen House Committee, where I organised and led exciting House events to promote bonding within students of the same house and between houses.

One of my most rewarding experiences in NUS was to join SIGNapsee, a student-led sign language interest group formed by healthcare students. My passion for this cause grew after I started learning sign language, and is now a sign language instructor. I was the Publicity Director in the Executive Committee where I led the publicity of the events we organised for students and public to increase awareness for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community in Singapore.



6th SIGNapsee Executive Committee