



Postgraduate European Radiopharmacy Course – PERC 2023 Module 1: Pharmacy and Legislation

In September 2023, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Pharmacy successfully conducted a two-week Postgraduate European Radiopharmacy Course - PERC 2023, Module 1 in collaboration with the University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Department of Nuclear Medicine and ETH Zürich. The programme is accredited with 10 ECTS. The course took place between 28th August and 8th September 2023. Thirty-one participants from Europe (Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Italy, Germany; Norway, Latvia, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland), Asia (Hong Kong) and Middle East (Saudi Arabia) attended the course.

PERC, Module 1: "Pharmacy and Legislation" is an intensive two-week theoretical course with practical exercises. The course is one of the essential theoretical blocks required for the European Certificate of Specialisation in Radiopharmacy. It is open to pharmacists, chemists and biochemists who hold at least a university master's degree or equivalent in accordance with the regulations of ETH Zurich (<http://www.radiochem.pharma.ethz.ch/postgraduate-programme/general-information.html>) and are involved in the preparation, quality control, release or research and development of radiopharmaceuticals in nuclear medicine departments, research institutions and/or the pharmaceutical industry. The course covers the fundamentals of pharmaceutical technology, drug development, formulation, evaluation, including biopharmaceutical aspects and European legislation. Special emphasis is given to best practises and quality assurance in parenteral solutions and clinical trials. The lectures were given in English by lecturers from the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Pharmacy, visiting professors from Austria, Switzerland, Italy and the Netherlands, as well as experts from the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Medicine, the Agency for Medicinal Products and Medical Devices of the Republic of Slovenia, the pharmaceutical company Lek, a Sandoz company, and the University Medical Centre Ljubljana.

To successfully complete the course, participants have to pass an oral and written exam. The oral exam took place on the last day of the course. After each lecture, students had to reflect on the content by writing down some new, particularly interesting and applicable points about the topic. These points were called "AHAs" and "TO -DOs". The students had to discuss these points with their fellow students (in pairs) and prepare a short presentation which they presented on the last day during the oral examination. The examination board consisted of professors from the University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Department of Nuclear Medicine, the Faculty of Pharmacy and ETH Zürich. As part of the written exam, each of the students has to prepare a standard operating procedure (SOP) on the topics suggested by the organizers or on a topic from their everyday work. They have to submit the SOP before the final written exam, which will take place in February 2024.

PERC consists also of Module 2: »Radiopharmaceutical chemistry« organized by the ETH Zurich, and Module 3: »Related topics: radiopharmacology and clinical radiopharmacy« organized by University of Leipzig.

For more information:

<http://www.ffa.uni-lj.si/en/study/specializations/postgraduate-european-radiopharmaceutical-chemistry-radiopharmacy-course>

<http://www.radiochem.pharma.ethz.ch/postgraduate-program/module-i.html>

