

# Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course guide for learners



# Background

The Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course supports pharmacists to develop the knowledge and clinical skills required to work safely with anti-cancer drugs and the patients receiving them.

The content of the Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course has been developed by eviQ Education to align with requirements of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care National Safety and Quality Health Service Standard 4: Medication safety.

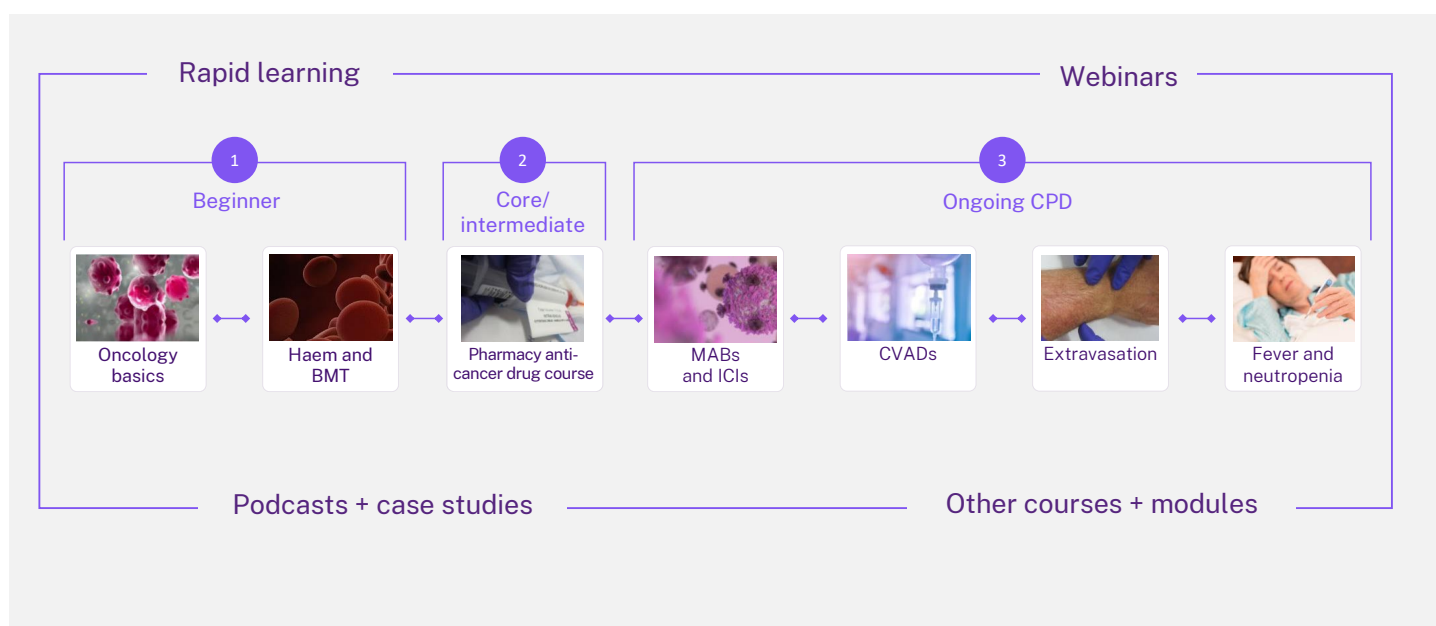
Prerequisites to completing the Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course are determined by each local health facility. Examples include:

- demonstrated clinical pharmacy experience
- demonstrated understanding of the basic pathogenesis of cancer and the principles of cancer treatment
- proficiency in the interpretation of basic laboratory test results
- demonstrated patient education skills
- other eviQ Education courses, such as those contained in the Pharmacy anti-cancer therapy learning pathway (see page 2).



# Pharmacy anti-cancer therapy learning pathway

eviQ Education has a suggested anti-cancer therapy learning pathway to support the development of knowledge and skills for health professionals, including pharmacists.



This pathway is designed to complement in-house training courses and support learners to progress from beginner through to an advanced level.

Confirm with your supervisor or facilitator if there are any prerequisites you need to complete prior to commencing the Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course.

A range of additional courses, rapid learnings, podcasts and webinars are also available to support the learner and can be found on the eviQ Education website.

# About the course structure

The Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course is flexible in its delivery.

The course may be approached as a comprehensive blended learning course incorporating online and face-to-face assessment, or as a comprehensive online-only course incorporating online learning and assessment.

## Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course structure

### Online components

- 7 modules – each taking about 1.5-2.5 hours
- 7 workbooks (optional)\*
- 7 eQuizzes

The online components of the course are accessed through the eviQ Education website or your facility's own learning management system (LMS).

\*Workbooks have been provided to assist you in applying the principles discussed in the modules to your local work context and role. If you choose to use the workbook, whenever you see a workplace reflection in the module, there is space allocated in the workbook for you to record notes if you wish. The workbook is available in 2 formats: a printable version to allow handwritten completion and an interactive version to support electronic completion.

Please confirm with your local facilitator if the workbook is mandated at your workplace.

### Practical skills components (optional)

- Supervised clinical practice
- Clinical skills workshop (optional for facilities)
- 3 competency assessments

The practical skills components of the course are delivered in the local facility by a trained local facilitator.



# Models of delivery

The Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course may be delivered using 2 different models of delivery.

## Self-directed model

This model is led by you, the learner, and does not incorporate a course facilitator. It incorporates the online components of the course only. This model does not incorporate the practical skills components of the course.

Using this model, you are required to:

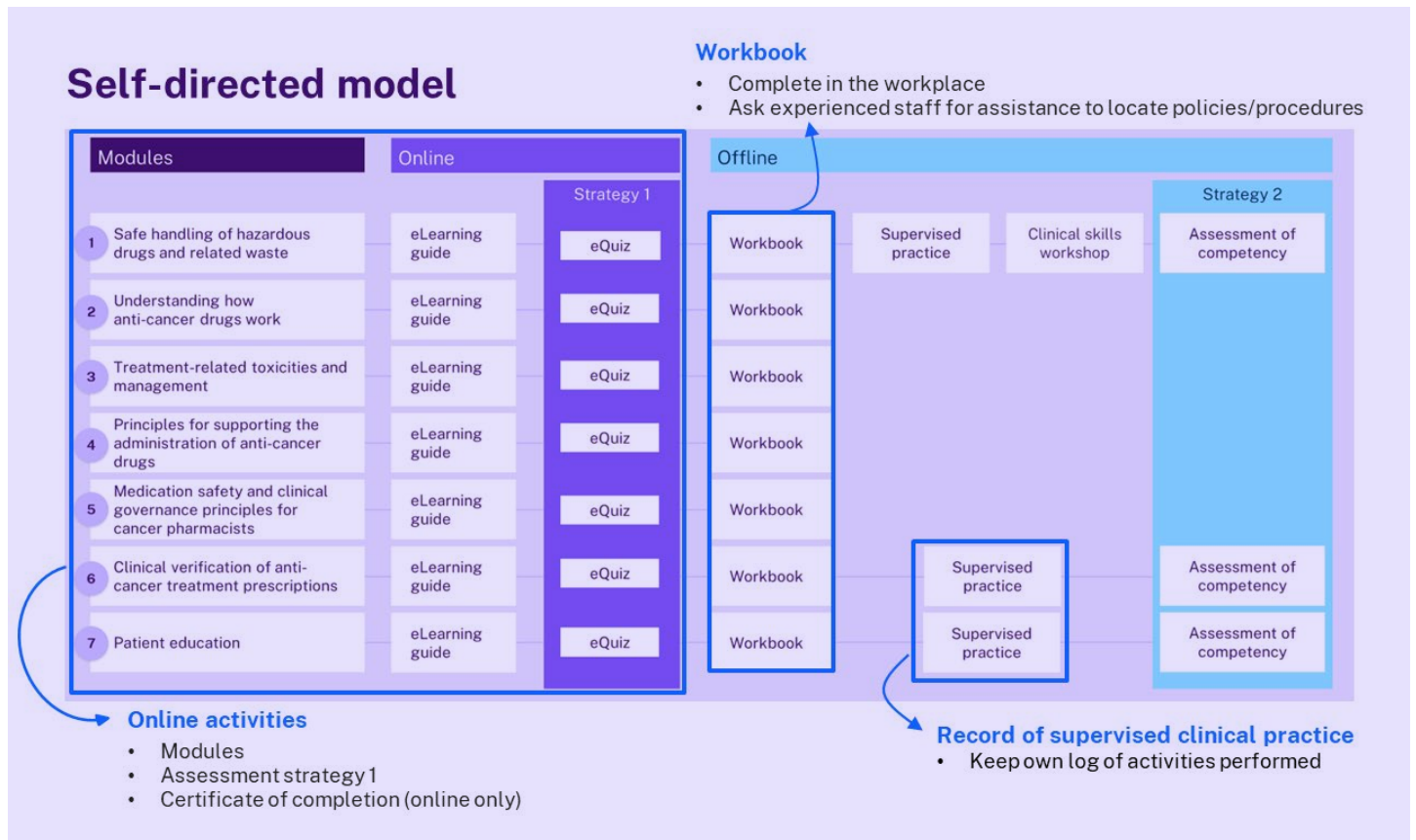
- complete the eLearning guides for modules 1-7
- achieve a 75% pass mark in module eQuizzes 1-7.

A certificate of completion will be awarded for each eQuiz successfully completed (online only). These are to be retained as evidence of completion of the online course components.

## Optional activities

- You may use the workbook as an additional resource and utilise more experienced colleagues, if available, for assistance.
- You may complete the supervised clinical practice components and use these records as a reflective log of your activities to inform continuing professional development.

Modules may be completed in numerical order or in an order dictated by the needs of the workplace and your role and responsibilities.



# Models of delivery

## Facilitator model

This model involves the use of a course facilitator to support your learning in the workplace. It incorporates the online components and the practical skills components of the course.

Using this model, you are required to:

- complete the eLearning guides for modules 1-7
- achieve a 75% pass mark in module eQuizzes 1-7 to receive a certificate of completion (online only)
- complete the practical skills components of the course, including supervised practice and competency assessment for:
  - Module 1: Safe handling of hazardous drugs and related waste
  - Module 6: Clinical verification of anti-cancer treatment prescriptions
  - Module 7: Patient education.

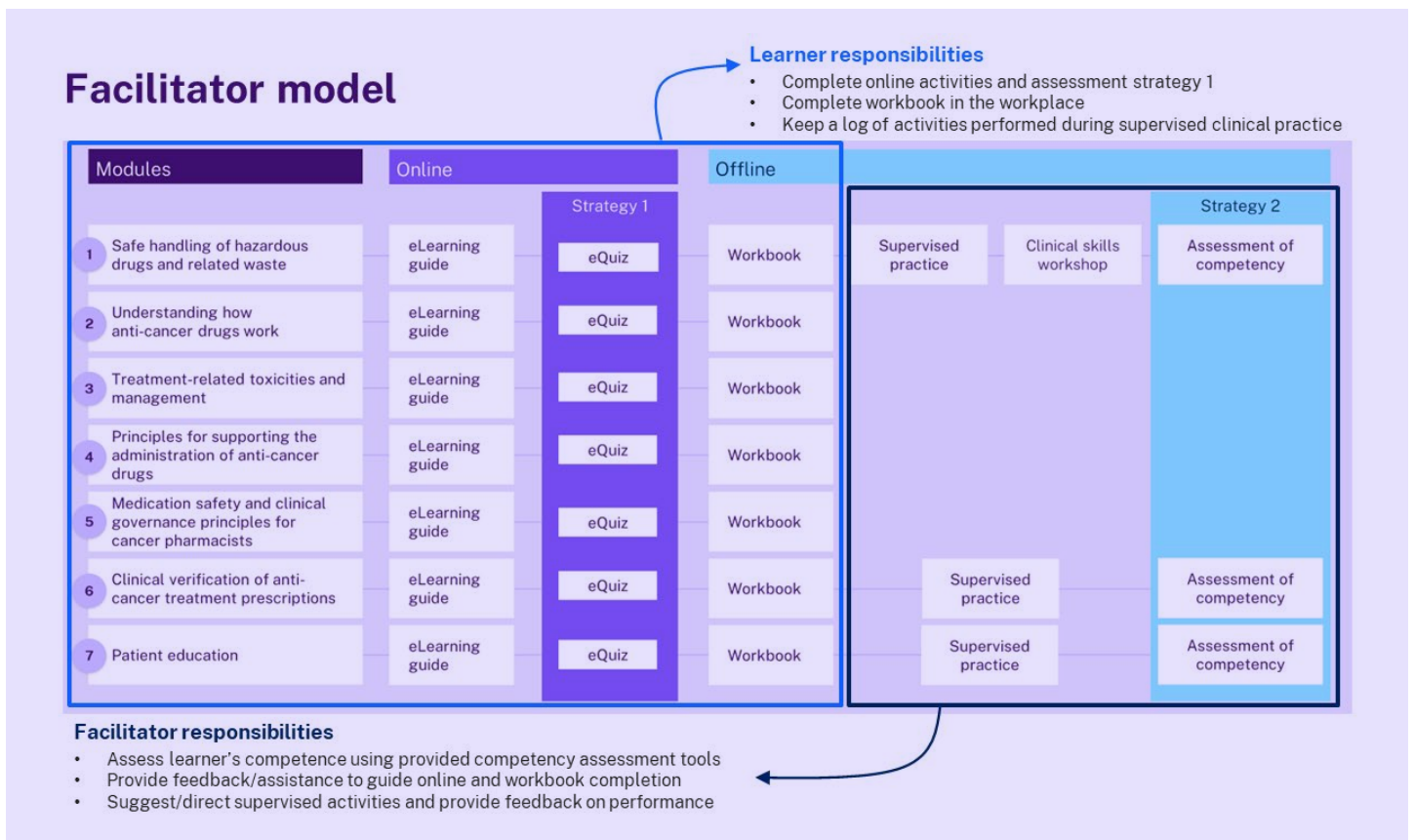
A certificate of competency will be awarded by the facilitator upon successful completion of supervised practice and competency assessment.

## Optional activities

- A clinical skills workshop related to Module 1 may be completed with the course facilitator.
- The workbook may be used as a self-directed resource or may be reviewed by the facilitator and used as a tool to identify gaps in knowledge or to guide areas for further development.

Confirm your facility requirements for these optional activities with your local facilitator.

The modules may be completed in numerical order or an order directed by the course facilitator.



## Supervised clinical practice

The purpose of supervised clinical practice is to provide you with opportunities to develop your skills, knowledge and abilities as they relate to key areas of cancer pharmacy practice. This will vary according to your individual needs and the requirements of your workplace.

It is recommended that:

- supervised clinical practice commences as soon as possible after completion of the online course components
- time periods for supervised clinical practice are negotiated between you and the facilitator/clinical assessor, with supervised practice continuing until competency has been achieved
- supervised clinical practice is conducted in accordance with local policies and guidelines
- where patients are involved, patient consent is obtained by the facilitator prior to supervised clinical practice and competency assessment.

## Competency assessment

Following supervised clinical practice, you will undertake competency assessments with your course facilitator/ assessor.

Competency is the combination of skills, knowledge, attitudes, values and abilities that underpin effective performance in a profession. A competency assessment is intended to measure your capabilities against the requirements of your role. It involves:

- clinical questioning on local policies and procedures
- observation of relevant clinical skills and assessment against each criterion.

eviQ Education provides competency assessment tools that acknowledge the varying levels of knowledge, skills, abilities and values of individual participants. The facilitator will complete the relevant competency assessment tool with you, and:

- assign you a score and provide feedback, including discussing if you have any future learning needs
- complete a record of competency assessment for your records
- once all competencies have been achieved, award you a certificate of competency.

## Maintenance of competence

Further education and training involved in working with anti-cancer drugs should be undertaken when new agents, protocols or equipment are introduced or when procedures change. You may need to be reassessed if the clinical changes are significant.

# Proof of completion

eviQ Education provides certificates of completion and competency to recognise when you have undertaken the Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course and/or achieved required competencies.

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**Certificates of Completion** for each module are issued online once you have completed and achieved a 75% pass mark in an eQuiz. The certificate is attached to the eQuiz. Certificates of completion are only provided for the assessable online components of Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course (the eQuizzes).

The **Certificate of Competency** is issued by your facilitator once all competencies are successfully obtained (facilitator model only).

Please note, the eviQ Education site cannot record individual learners' course completion or results. Confirm with your supervisor or facilitator what proof of completion they require for the online course components.

## Additional information

If you have any questions about the Pharmacy anti-cancer drug course, please speak with your educator or a senior pharmacist in your facility, refer to the eviQ Education website or email [CINSW-EviQEd@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:CINSW-EviQEd@health.nsw.gov.au)