What is ASCEPT?

ASCEPT is the leading Society and resource in Australia and New Zealand for the advancement of excellence in the pharmacological and toxicological sciences.

Goals

Research
Promote and advance research in clinical pharmacology, experimental pharmacology and toxicology, and in drug discovery, development and utilisation.

Teaching and training
Promote the teaching and learning of pharmacology and toxicology at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and the training of health professionals more generally.

Clinical practice
Provide leadership in pharmacotherapeutics and quality use of medicines.

Advising government
Ensure that ASCEPT has a major role in advising government and other organisations on matters related to pharmacology and toxicology.

Informing the public
Inform the public regarding important pharmacological and toxicological issues, including drug and chemical safety.

International links
Represent Australasian pharmacology and toxicology at an international level.

Links with industry
Foster the development of educational, research and professional partnerships between ASCEPT members and the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and toxicology industries.

Governance
ASCEPT is governed by a Council elected by its membership. This body makes all policy decisions and charts the course for the Society.
Membership & activities

Members
ASCEPT draws more than 600 members from academia, industry, government, hospitals and consultancies. The majority of the membership comprises

- health science graduates working in research, industry or education
- medical graduates working in clinical practice, research or education
- pharmacy graduates
- honours and postgraduate students

Activities and Affiliations

International affiliations with

- International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR)
- International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX)
- South East Asian and Western Pacific Regional Federation of Pharmacologists

Exchange programs with

- British Pharmacological Society
- British Toxicology Society
- Japanese Pharmacological Society

Host of International Congresses

- IUTOX (2001)
- World Congress of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (2004)
- South East Asian and Western Pacific Regional Federation of Pharmacologists (2007)

ASCEPT has affiliations with

- Royal Australasian College of Physicians
- Australian Society for Medical Research
- Science and Technology Australia
- Australian Academy of Sciences
- Australian Medicines Handbook
- Royal Society of New Zealand
- National Prescribing Service
- Research Australia
- Medicines Australia — Code of Conduct Subcommittee
- Pathology Associations Council
Membership & activities

Department of Health & Ageing
Therapeutic Good Administration
- Advisory Committee on Safety of Medicines (ASCOM)
- Advisory Committee Non-prescription Medicines (ACNM) (formerly MEC)
- Advisory Committee on Complementary Medicines (ACCM) (formerly CMEC)
- Advisory Committee of Prescription Medicines (ACPM) (formerly ADEC)
- Pharmaceutical Sub-committee of ACPM
- National Drugs & Poisoning Schedule Committee (NDPSC)
- Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC)

Formal links with other societies
- British Pharmacological Society (BPS)
- British Toxicology Society (BTS)
- Japanese Pharmacological Society (JPS)
- South East Asian Western Pacific Regional Federation of Pharmacologists (SEAWP-RFP)
- Western Pharmacological Society (WPS)

Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)
- International Union of Basic & Clinical Pharmacologists (IUPHAR)
- International Union of Toxicologists (IUTOX)

Medicines Assessment Advisory Committee (MAAC)
- Pharmacology & Therapeutics Committee (PTAC)
- Standing Committee on Therapeutic Trials (SCOTT)

Science and Technology Australia
- NPS
- Australian Medicines Handbook (AMH)
- Therapeutic Guidelines

Royal Society of New Zealand
- Australian Academy of Science

Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR)
- Research Australia
- Australian Cancer Network
- Medicines Australia
- Pathology Associations Council
Benefits

Present your research at the Annual Scientific Meeting in front of peers and a highly informed audience. The meeting ensures interaction with colleagues, prospective higher degree supervisors and employers from Australia and New Zealand. It also provides excellent social activities. Members are eligible for reduced registration fees.

**ASCEPT supports students.** Every interstate student member receives support if presenting at the Annual Scientific Meeting.

**Student prizes** are awarded for poster and oral presentations from both honours and higher degree students.

**Opportunities for international travel.** Student and Postdoctoral Travel grants for PhD students or postdocs presenting at specific international congresses.

**Special interest groups.** Become involved in the development of leadership in pharmacology and toxicology in your specialist area of interest, enhancing your networking opportunities.

**Specialist physician training in clinical pharmacology.** ASCEPT oversees physician subspecialty training in clinical pharmacology in association with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

**Mentoring Program.** ASCEPT offers a range of mentors who can provide independent advice and support. This program has been well received by post-graduate students.

**Departmental seminar programs** with a quorum of ASCEPT members receive financial support.

**Networking opportunities** with prominent scientists and practitioners within academia, government, hospitals and industry.

**Job opportunities** are posted on the internet for member access.

**Receive regular updates** via the e-news and website.

**Discounted subscriptions** to Clinical and Experimental Physiology and Pharmacology (CEPP) and the Australian Medicines Handbook.

**Participate in the management and activities of ASCEPT.** A contribution to the management of ASCEPT and its affairs is regarded as a sign of professional accomplishment and standing.
Meetings & awards

Scientific meetings
The ASCEPT Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM), usually held in December, is the largest gathering of professionals in the disciplines of clinical and experimental pharmacology and toxicology in Australasia.

The ASM meeting includes:
- Oral research presentations and posters
- Symposia on areas of cutting edge pharmacology and toxicology
- Careers and Techniques workshops
- Awards and prizes for students and postdocs

ASCEPT regularly holds joint meetings with other Societies, further expanding the experiences available at the conference. ASCEPT provides seed funding for smaller meetings held at different times of the year and organised by Interest Groups.

Annual Clinical Weekend
A two-day event open to all ASCEPT members and pitched at physician advanced trainees.

Awards and prizes
ASCEPT provides awards to members at various stages of their careers for outstanding contributions to clinical and experimental pharmacology or toxicology nationally and internationally. Details and previous recipients are listed on www.ascept.org.

Student
- ASCEPT Garth McQueen, Robert Whelan and Neville Percy Prizes
- ASCEPT Special Interest Group Prizes
- ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize
- ASCEPT Clinical Pharmacology Trainee Prize

Early career
- ASCEPT Denis Wade, Johnson & Johnson New Investigators Award
- ASCEPT Early Educator Award

Mid-late career
- ASCEPT Michael Rand Medal
- ASCEPT Lecturer
- ASCEPT Teaching Excellence Award
- ASCEPT Achievement Award
Joining ASCEPT

Membership is open to persons who are actively engaged in or interested in the pharmacological and toxicological sciences and who have appropriate qualifications.

Student membership is designed for students undertaking bachelor or postgraduate degrees in a relevant discipline.

To become a member, contact the Secretariat or download a form and application details from www.ascept.org.

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