# Soft skills in the pharmacy curriculum



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## **Objectives**

- Define soft skills
- Why soft skills?
- Where should we be going?
- Models to follow



## **Audience question**

#### What are soft skills?



## **Definition of soft skills**

Personal attributes that enable someone to interact effectively and harmoniously with other people.

(Oxford Dictionary, online)

**Communication Critical thinking Problem solving** Teamwork Time management **Conflict management Cultural awareness** Responsibility Leadership **Work ethic** 

## What are the hard skills?

- Essential to the job function
- Easily quantified



Calculating doses





## How do you want the balance?



Hard skills

Soft skills

## But why soft skills?

# **Soft skills = Hard skills**

- Develop from experiences from student life and over a career
- Hard to quantify
- How to measure them and assess them?

## Where should we be going?

Support efforts to broaden skills developed across the wide perspective over the entire educational experience including postgraduate education so as to achieve pharmacists who have the knowledge and skills to contribute for patient care, lead and advocate for innovation.

## Models to follow

• Emphasise active

engagement of students in the learning models

- Foster scientific inquiry and innovation
- Immerse students in patient care early

**Case-based learning Flipped Classroom** 

Research Projects Longitudinal approach

**Experientials** 

## **Different experiences**

Regional, European, International student networking

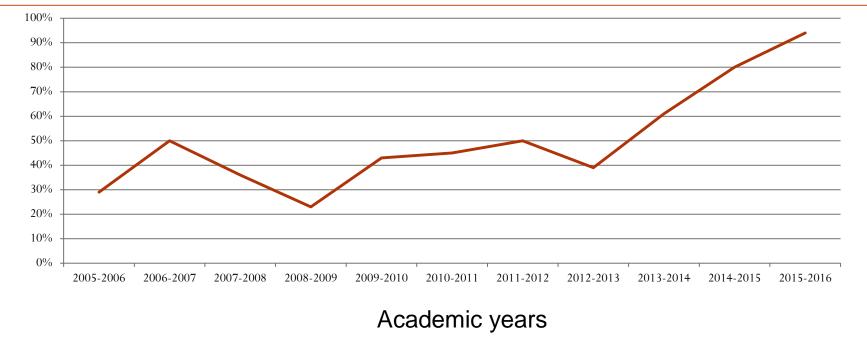




Education and Culture Lifelong Learning Programme ERASMUS

# **Erasmus Mobility**

#### Percentage number of pharmacy students at the University of Malta



#### 2015: 80% of pharmacy students going on mobility

# POSTGRADUATE PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE IN PHARMACY

Level 8 degree in collaboration

with College of Pharmacy,

University of Illinois, Chicago

 Develop advanced professional skills in clinical pharmacy



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Inter-professional learning at the professional sites with

consultant physicians, nurses and other healthcare

professionals

Take up applied pharmacy research

Journal clubs, case presentations, scenario analysis, reflective portfolios, presentations and discussions **Thank You**