We shape the future
Key numbers

IN THE
TOP 100
worldwide in the medicine category of leading university rankings

8,000
students

1,200,000
outpatient treatments annually at Vienna General Hospital

5,750
employees

51,000
operations annually, including 750 transplants

Doing everything to support health

Founded in 1365 as the medical faculty of the University of Vienna and made an independent university in 2004, today MedUni Vienna is among Europe’s most highly respected centres of medical training and research.
Focused programmes of study

MedUni Vienna has an educational offering that ranges from undergraduate degrees to continuing education courses and PhD programmes.

Measurable success

Since its establishment as an independent university in 2004, research output has grown at MedUni Vienna. This can be seen in the university’s consistent upward progress in significant rankings including the US News Best Global Universities Rankings and the QS World University Rankings.
Karl Landsteiner
Ignaz Philipp Semmelweis
Gerard van Swieten
Carl von Rokitansky
Josef Skoda
Róbert Bárány
Karl Landsteiner
Gerard van Swieten
Ignaz Philipp Semmelweis
Modern medicine was born in Vienna. Gerard van Swieten, personal physician to Empress Maria Theresa, introduced bedside teaching into medical education in the 18th century. Decades later, Carl von Rokitansky and Josef Skoda broke new ground when they applied the theories of Ignaz Philipp Semmelweis in clinical practice for the first time anywhere in the world. In the 20th century, Karl Landsteiner and Róbert Bárány were each awarded a Nobel Prize in recognition of their research. However, many of Vienna’s physicians were of Jewish heritage or dissident thinkers, and were murdered, expelled or forced to flee by the National Socialist regime – among them Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis and one of the most influential thinkers of modern times.
A tradition of innovation

We will continue to make history – now and in the future.

Eric Kandel, receiving his honorary doctorate from Rector Markus Müller, and Carl Djerassi, who was presented with his honorary doctorate by the first Rector of MedUni Vienna, Wolfgang Schütz.
After the major rupture caused by National Socialism, many of those who were driven abroad pursued their careers successfully there, making important contributions to medical progress. Notable examples include Carl Djerassi and Nobel laureate Eric Kandel. But the medical faculty of the University of Vienna, founded in 1365, took a long time to recover its pioneering role. The new Vienna General Hospital opened in 1994 provided impetus, as did the establishment of MedUni Vienna as an autonomous university ten years later. Today, MedUni Vienna is a leading medical university and its activities in patient care, research and teaching mean it has returned to its place among the best in the world.

The memorial at MedUni Vienna commemorating the victims of the National Socialist regime, and symbolising the university’s commitment to tolerance and openness.
We are currently experiencing the future of medicine at first hand. What was science fiction only recently is reality today. Illnesses can be diagnosed by a look in the eyes, gene analysis enables the right treatment to be identified precisely, and even previously incurable diseases are treatable. All of this is already possible. And this is just the beginning – thanks to ground-breaking new approaches like big data, bionics and precision medicine. MedUni Vienna is at the forefront of these revolutionary developments, and is building the infrastructure for the medicine of the 21st century in the shape of its new Mariannengasse campus, new research buildings on the Vienna General Hospital campus, and the Center for Precision Medicine.
Long-cherished dreams are becoming reality.
Our know-how and capabilities provide the basis for outstanding achievements in medicine.
Giving our all for good health

4,000 patients at Vienna General Hospital each day

Anyone who is unwell wants to receive the best treatment they can from doctors and nurses. At MedUni Vienna that goes without saying. Patients receive optimal care in accordance with the latest scientific discoveries – from outpatient treatment to outstanding tertiary care. This is possible because Vienna General Hospital and MedUni Vienna work together to provide all the elements of a world-class medical school under one roof: first-class care for patients, medical education and training, and finding solutions to the medical challenges of today and tomorrow.
Dynamic knowledge

At no other time in history has medical knowledge advanced as rapidly as it is advancing today. Patients are benefitting in a large variety of ways. Illnesses can now be diagnosed and treated before they develop. Previously deadly diseases are losing their sting. And even for rare diseases, treatment options are multiplying. MedUni Vienna’s outstanding contributions in many different fields are helping to propel this welcome progress.

3,800 academic staff
We are driven by curiosity and an irrepressible spirit of scientific enquiry.
From the beginning onwards, understanding the patient as a whole person defines how we think and act.
Without doctors who have received the best medical education and training, there will be no medicine of the future. So in the interests of generations to come, MedUni Vienna is focused on providing a first-class education for doctors and other health specialists. Innovative knowledge transfer approaches and a large practical component in the medical curriculum provide a guarantee that the potential offered by medical advances is harnessed fully, and that patients directly benefit.
Our expertise opens up undreamt-of possibilities for patients.
New perspectives

New limbs provide mobility that wasn’t imagined possible, new organs give quality of life back to patients and new treatments add valuable years to their lives. These quantum leaps in medical science are down to bionics, transplantation medicine and genetic analysis – just three areas of clinical practice in which doctors at MedUni Vienna are among the best in the world. Behind all of their successes stands a simple philosophy that has always been followed at MedUni Vienna: diseases are a challenge – not an inevitability.
A high quality of life for all – regardless of income and origin
The world’s most liveable city

A global city with close to two million inhabitants and important UNESCO World Heritage sites. With the buzz of a city – at the same time as having 800 farms. With clean water directly from the Limestone Alps, a high level of safety, and an almost endless choice of leisure activities. A rich history – this is the city of Empress Elisabeth, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Gustav Klimt – and a diverse contemporary culture and lifestyle scene. Vienna is peerless. And therefore the most liveable city in the world: Vienna is ranked first, ahead of Melbourne, in the Economist Intelligence Unit’s Global Liveability Index, as well as first yet again in Mercer’s Quality of Living survey.
190,000 students in Vienna, a centre for scientific activity

Finger on the pulse

Situated in the centre of Europe, numerous international organisations are located in Vienna, including the UN, the OSCE, and the EU’s Fundamental Rights Agency. In terms of student numbers, the city is the biggest university town in the German-speaking world. The Austrian capital is attractive to both students and researchers, not only because of its universities but also thanks to the large number of other significant organisations carrying out research, especially in life sciences.
Life sciences in the heart of Europe
Worldwide collaboration

Around 60% of all publications from MedUni Vienna are based on international collaborations. The most significant countries for partnerships are the USA, Germany, the UK, France and Sweden, and the majority of research collaborations are with top universities including Harvard University, the University of California, the University of Munich, the University of London and the Karolinska Institutet. Strategic cooperations with partners in Asian countries including Singapore, Japan and China also deliver important impetus.

MedUni Vienna’s global partnerships:

darker green indicates greater cooperation density (InCites dataset updated Mar 26, 2020.
Includes Web of Science content indexed through Feb 29, 2020)
Success thanks to international partnerships