

1 **Global Leaders in Development (GLIDE): a global leadership module across three international**
2 **pharmacy schools.**

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9 **ABSTRACT:**

10 **Objectives:** The objective of this study is to assess the impact of the Global Leaders in Development
11 (GLIDE) module to determine whether concepts of global mindset, citizenship, and leadership can be
12 effectively taught within a short-term didactic module.

13 **Methods:** Faculty members of PharmAlliance, a partnership between three schools of pharmacy,
14 created a three-week optional, non-credit bearing distance-based global leadership development
15 module. Material and assignments focused on concepts of global mindset, global citizenship, and global
16 leadership as applied to the global health issues of non-communicable diseases, universal health
17 coverage, and primary care. Student self-rated growth was measured with an adapted fifteen question
18 pre-post survey that also included open-ended questions.

19 **Key Findings:** Most statements showed growth on the pre-post survey with seven being statistically
20 significant ($p < 0.05$). The largest growth involved students' perceived potential to be a global leader in
21 pharmacy (global leadership category), the students' connectedness to the pharmacy profession
22 worldwide (global citizenship category), and the students' awareness of global challenges faced in the
23 pharmacy profession (global mindset category). Qualitative analysis identified several themes for each
24 of the open-ended questions. Student expectations focused on the desire to expand their global

25 mindset, better understand global pharmacy practice, develop teamwork skills, and understand global
26 pharmacy challenges and strategies for engagement.

27 **Conclusions:** The concepts of global mindset, global citizenship, and global leadership may help promote
28 awareness of global health challenges, opportunities to make a global difference in a local context, and
29 connectivity to the profession on a global scale.

30 Keywords: global mindset, global citizenship, global leadership, pharmacy education

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32

33 **INTRODUCTION**

34 Leadership is a key component of pharmacy education for several countries, including Australia, Canada,
35 the United Kingdom, and the United States, and is needed to achieve the standards put forth by the
36 International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Global Competency Framework.¹ Despite its presence in
37 the curricula for several countries, it is unknown how it may be best used or taught to address some of
38 the world' largest health problems. Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) cause over 70% of deaths
39 worldwide, yet at least half of the world's population does not have full coverage for basic, essential
40 health services.^{2,3} Exacerbating these problems, it is expected that there will be a shortage of 15 million
41 health care workers worldwide by 2030.⁴ Global challenges including NCDs, universal health coverage,
42 and access to primary care services will require both organizational and individual leadership to achieve
43 the World Health Organization's Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. As these challenges continue
44 to transcend country borders, the pharmacy profession may need to consider how to develop our
45 students and the future workforce into global leaders.

46

47 While the concept of global leadership for the profession is not defined, it may require a global mindset
48 and sense of citizenship to effectively address global health challenges. The concept of a global mindset

49 has been identified in the business literature as a key characteristic for global leadership.^{5,6} A global
50 mindset has been broadly defined by Gupta et al. as an openness to and awareness of diversity across
51 cultures with the ability to act on that insight to influence others.⁷ While cultivating a global mindset is
52 at the forefront of business school programs and many companies, the literature is sparse with its
53 impact in health education and professional curricula, including that of pharmacy.

54

55 Another concept that should be explored further in health professional curricula is that of global
56 citizenship, which in the corporate context has evolved beyond the idea of corporate social
57 responsibility. While there is no universally agreed definition for global citizenship, most focus on the
58 central themes of social responsibility, global competence, and global civic engagement.⁸ As a concept,
59 global citizenship refers to a sense of belonging to a broader community and promoting linkages
60 between global and local contexts for a more peaceful, tolerant, secure, and sustainable society.⁹ The
61 United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) emphasizes that global
62 citizenship is key to achieving the Sustainable Development goals by 2030 and that it is a lifelong
63 learning concept that is applicable to learners of all ages.⁹

64

65 To assume a global leadership role, students may need to learn about and be exposed to concepts not
66 traditionally found in the pharmacy curricula. Limited information is available as to whether schools
67 have introduced global mindset and citizenship concepts into pharmacy or health education curricula.
68 To prepare students to become global agents of change, faculty members across three pharmacy
69 schools came together to develop a three-week module, Global Leaders in Development (GLIDE), that
70 featured concepts of global mindset, global citizenship, and global leadership. The module utilized
71 learning lessons from a global citizenship extracurricular summer course at University College London
72 (UCL) as well as suggestions by UNESCO to inform its content and delivery. The objective of this study is

73 to assess the impact of the GLIDE module to determine whether the concepts of global mindset, global
74 citizenship, and global leadership can be effectively be taught within a short-term didactic module
75 across three international pharmacy schools.

76

77 **METHODS**

78 Faculty members of PharmAlliance, a three-way partnership between the pharmacy schools at the
79 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), Monash University (Monash), and University College
80 London (UCL), created a three-week optional, non-credit bearing distance-based global leadership
81 development module. The first-week material focused on the concepts of global mindset, global
82 citizenship, and global leadership. Students read one journal article associated with each concept and
83 watched a 20-minute recorded PowerPoint presentation video on each concept made by the faculty
84 facilitators. Each video also included an introductory message from one of the Deans at each school
85 explaining the importance of the concept. The second-week material applied the three concepts to the
86 global health issues of non-communicable diseases, universal health coverage, and primary care by
87 having students read one key resource from the World Health Organization on each global health issue
88 as provided by the faculty facilitators. ¹¹⁻¹³ Table 1 outlines the format of the module.

89

90 Content material was developed and shared with students using Google Drive. Each school recruited
91 students from the first- and second-year class within their professional pharmacy program. Students
92 were organized into international teams of six to seven students with relatively equal distribution across
93 the programs based on total enrolment. Students were asked to watch videos and read selected articles
94 in advance of team meetings which were one hour each week for two weeks with a faculty facilitator
95 from one of the three schools. During the virtual team meetings, faculty facilitators followed a jointly
96 developed standardized discussion guide with key questions regarding the material for each week.

97

98 The concepts and global health issues from the first two weeks formed a matrix framework (Figure 1) for
99 students to use when working together in their team for their final deliverable, a case storyboard. The
100 case storyboard had to highlight the concepts of global mindset, global citizenship, and global leadership
101 as it applied to one of four risk factors associated with the global health issues discussed: 1) pollution
102 and environment, 2) physical and mental wellbeing, 3) life factors, healthy living, and nutrition, and 4)
103 economic factors including country wealth, and poverty. The case storyboard had to outline a specific
104 health issue under one of the risk factors and explain how pharmacy students and the profession could
105 contribute towards addressing the identified issue. Students had the instructions for the case storyboard
106 from the beginning of the module and had time at the end of each team meeting to work on their
107 deliverable. Student teams were then given an additional week (third week) to finalize their case
108 storyboard.

109

110 Students were sent a pre-post survey through Qualtrics asking them to rate themselves on fifteen
111 statements on a 5-point Likert Scale (1= strongly disagree; 5= strongly agree). This survey was adapted
112 from the learning dimensions of the UNESCO global citizenship education framework and the UCL
113 Global Citizenship Programme.⁹ These cognitive, socio-emotional, and behavioural dimensions of global
114 citizenship were also utilized when developing the survey statements for global mindset and global
115 leadership. Each concept had five statements for evaluation. Statements were self-developed by the
116 authors. Students completed the pre-survey before the module started and the post-survey within one
117 week after the module concluded. They also answered open-ended questions on each survey. The pre-
118 survey included one question asking about their expectations while the post-survey included questions
119 on what stood out, how they would utilize what they learned, what they need to learn more about
120 moving forward, and how they would improve the module. All quantitative data analyses were

121 conducted using Microsoft Excel 2018. Paired t-tests were used to evaluate differences in the pre-post
122 scores. Qualitative data were coded and analysed using a one cycle open coding process with
123 conventional content analysis.¹⁴ Dispersion screening of results revealed four cases with consistently
124 'extreme' recorded values in the post-test variable set (all had values *less than* the dispersion interval
125 given by $[Mdn - 2(Q_3 - Q_1)]$). These four extreme cases were excluded from subsequent comparative
126 analysis. This study and analysis was approved by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
127 Institutional Review Board. This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the
128 public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors

129 **RESULTS**

130 In total, 71 students enrolled and completed the module with 65 students completing the pre-survey
131 and 51 students completing the post-survey. Students who only completed the pre-survey (n=15) or
132 only completed the post-survey (n=1) were removed for quantitative analysis. Additionally, the cases
133 with consistently extreme values on post-survey responses were excluded (n=4). Of the 46 students
134 (65%) included for final analysis, 21 were from UNC, 15 from UCL, and 10 from Monash. Most students
135 were in their second year (70%). Table 2 shows pre-post results for each statement as well as each
136 concept.

137
138 Most statements showed growth from the pre-survey to the post-survey, with seven having a
139 statistically significant increase ($p < 0.05$). The largest growth was seen in the statements about the
140 students' perceived potential to be a global leader in pharmacy (global leadership category), the
141 students' connectedness to the pharmacy profession worldwide (global citizenship category), and the
142 students' awareness of global challenges faced in the pharmacy profession (global mindset category). A
143 decrease was seen in four statements however none of the results were statistically significant. All

144 three concepts (global mindset, global citizenship, and global leadership) showed significant total
145 growth ($p < 0.001$).

146
147 Qualitative analysis identified several themes for each of the open-ended questions. Student
148 expectations focused on the desire to expand their global mindset, better understanding global
149 pharmacy practice, develop teamwork skills in working with international students, and understand
150 global pharmacy challenges as well as strategies to get engaged. When asked what was remarkable from
151 the module, students predominantly commented on global awareness and collaboration. In particular,
152 students often commented on their newfound appreciation for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and
153 how these are global health issues that have substantial local implications. Many students described
154 how their preconceived notions of global health were challenged revealing their own implicit bias as to
155 what defines and constitutes global health. These self-realizations appeared to be associated with the
156 weekly readings and the facilitated team meeting discussion. As seen below, several students indicated
157 how the local connectivity of global health challenged their thinking.

158
159 “The concept of acting “Glocal,” a notion that promotes thinking globally but acting locally. This module
160 really emphasized this idea, and helped us to realise that this is very achievable if we have a global
161 mindset, see ourselves as global citizens, and act as global leaders.” – Monash student

162
163 Global engagement and advocacy were the predominant themes for how students saw themselves
164 putting into action what they have learned. Students voiced the need for future advocacy and creating
165 awareness for global challenges and issues, whether pharmacy is directly implicated or not. In moving
166 forward, there was also recognition that small actions can lead to substantial impacts. As indicated in

167 the quote below, students are interested in future global pharmacy opportunities and wanted to instill
168 within themselves a better awareness of the issues impacting the profession on a global and local scale.

169

170 “It has given me a perspective on how important my role is as a pharmacist. I no longer see myself
171 behind a counter, but I see myself fighting for things that matter. I feel like this is one of the best things
172 that I have done this year. . . it involves a lot of communication and discussion and it allows you to see
173 things from a different perspective.” – UCL student

174

175 To move forward, students stated that they need to learn more about opportunities to get involved as
176 well as what is going on in other parts of the world. From resources for tackling global issues to more
177 examples about ways pharmacists have made an impact, students want to further explore global
178 pharmacy practice and education in other countries. Some students want to specifically influence policy
179 and government on issues of health and the role of pharmacy in helping address global health
180 challenges. Students would comment on how increased knowledge of the profession worldwide could
181 position countries to better work with and learn from one another.

182

183 “I need to learn more about the pharmacy profession in other countries, and how we can use our
184 differences to learn from each other and empower each other.” – UNC student

185

186 Overall, both qualitative and quantitative growth was demonstrated by this analysis as evidenced by the
187 students’ reflections and the pre-post survey data. The largest growth seen across both the quantitative
188 and the qualitative data was in the cognitive domain as students acquired new knowledge and
189 perspective after taking the course. Students also exhibited growth in the socio-emotional domain of

190 learning as they developed an appreciation for how different communities can be connected through
191 shared opportunities and challenges.⁹

192

193 Finally, although student comments indicated their satisfaction with the module, students indicated that
194 there should be more time and instruction on the concepts and global health challenges presented.

195 Students stated that three weeks was not sufficient to go into depth regarding content material. It was
196 also not sufficient for adequate teamwork and engagement with their international peers.

197

198 **DISCUSSION**

199 This collaborative, international education study explored the concepts of global mindset, global
200 citizenship, and global leadership across students from three schools of pharmacy. The global concepts
201 taught in the module are often not a focus in pharmacy or general higher education curricula, yet are
202 being discussed as those that should be integrated into student learning.¹⁵ Findings of this study suggest
203 a short-term didactic course does create a positive impact on students' understanding and value of
204 global mindset, global citizenship, and global leadership. This is also the first study to assess the
205 instruction of these concepts in pharmacy across multiple international institutions.

206

207 A key strength of this study includes analysing global citizenship, global mindset, and global leadership
208 across three international pharmacy programs in a mixed-methods capacity. Instruction of these
209 concepts are predominantly taught within one institution and limited data exists regarding its
210 instruction in health profession education. The study had several limitations though, of which the timing
211 and delivery of the module seemed to be the most influential. The module had to be designed to fit a
212 three-week window of overlapping schedules to allow for synchronous team discussions. As indicated by
213 student comments, as well as verbal discussions instructors had with students after the module ended,

214 three weeks was perceived as an inadequate amount of time to fully explore the concepts and work
215 with their international teams on a deliverable. Another limitation lies in the possibility of self-selection
216 bias as those students who were likely more interested in global initiatives at baseline signed up for the
217 module. Further, the survey was not piloted before implementation and only utilized expert content
218 validity by the authors which could impact how it was understood across the three countries. More
219 research is needed to further validate the survey instrument before assessing the long term impact of
220 the module into practice.

221

222 Analysis of post-survey comments revealed that students enjoyed working with their peers from other
223 countries towards a shared goal. While most international collaborative opportunities utilize online
224 platforms for text-based asynchronous learning, virtual face-to-face meetings with faculty facilitation
225 appeared to further instill a sense of connectedness among the team.¹⁶ This could be one contributing
226 factor as to why students had significant growth in feeling connected to the profession on a global scale.
227 The literature indicates that most students prefer interactive, synchronous learning platforms over text-
228 based asynchronous lectures.¹⁶ Programs can facilitate their own international student networks by
229 starting small and offering co-curricular opportunities, such as case study discussions, book clubs, and
230 periodic virtual seminars that feature synchronous discussion and collaboration. With teamwork and
231 collaboration serving as foundational principles in many pharmacy curricula worldwide^{17, 18},
232 international student collaboration could help reinforce collaborative practice which takes into
233 consideration differing perspectives.

234

235 Student comments also revealed a sense of initiative and desire to take local action in different
236 capacities. As students became more aware of global health issues and challenges, they indicated a
237 stronger appreciation as to what could be done within a local context to impact global change.

238 Increasingly, educators are trying to utilize the “think global, act local” mantra to help students better
239 understand what can be done in their local setting that has global implications.⁹⁹ Local action can be a
240 conduit for further developing global leadership skills as students work to increase awareness of global
241 issues not only for themselves, but also for those around them. Professional advocacy is another
242 characteristic often embedded within pharmacy curricula with global leadership providing a unique
243 platform to exercise and achieve this skill.

244

245 The positive comments on the open-ended questions paired with the non-significant decrease in some
246 statement results indicate potential response shift bias as students may have overestimated their self-
247 reported knowledge and abilities on the pre-survey.²⁰ Student comments indicated that the pre-reading
248 material and team discussions challenged their beliefs and pre-conceived notions around global health.
249 This may explain the lack of statistically significant growth seen on some statements indicating the
250 students’ openness to new ideas from other countries, territories, and cultures. The lack of growth seen
251 in statements about students’ ability to develop leadership skills and work in equal partnership to bring
252 about change is likely due to student realization that they had more room to grow and develop than
253 previously thought. A lack of expertise is a known factor that contributes towards false positive
254 perceptions in student self-assessments.²¹ Finally, their lack of growth in curiosity about aspects of
255 pharmacy in other parts of the world may be due to the discovery achieved during this course, thereby
256 decreasing the amount unknown from the students’ perspective. The previously mentioned time
257 constraints of the module could also explain why several statements showed insignificant growth.

258

259 Growth in awareness was particularly evident from their comments on a deeper understanding of global
260 challenges, such as noncommunicable diseases, and how these global challenges have local implications.
261 Noncommunicable diseases and chronic disease state management can often be viewed as localized

262 issues in developed countries despite significant increases of NCDs occurring in developing countries.²²
263 This can result in NCDs not being discussed as a global health issue, which attenuates the opportunity
264 for students to think about how their daily actions and future activities as a pharmacist are making
265 significant contributions to global health. As one of the most accessible and trusted healthcare
266 providers, students may not be thinking at a macro level how pharmacists contribute towards the
267 primary care infrastructure in their local environment and across many countries, which is a key element
268 of ensuring universal health coverage.² Pharmacists have the opportunity to reinforce how local disease
269 states have global implications when working with students and young practitioners.

270

271 **CONCLUSION**

272 The development of global mindset, global citizenship, and global leadership are continuous, lifelong
273 processes that are not intended to be achieved within a short period of time. However, a brief
274 introduction to these concepts in a limited timeframe could help promote awareness of global health
275 challenges, stimulate curiosity as to what can be done in local contexts to make a global difference, and
276 increase a sense of connectedness to the profession on a global scale. Students are the future workforce
277 and embedding these concepts into the curricula can help further the global impact of the profession.
278 More research is needed to determine construct validity of the survey as well as what the impact of
279 such a module would be in other geographic areas including low to middle income countries. This study
280 could provide confidence and justification for other schools of pharmacy as they consider the impact
281 and feasibility of including these concepts into didactic learning for a comprehensive pharmacy
282 education that can help transform practice.

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320 Table 1. Outline of module activities and learning concepts

	Activity	Concepts Covered
Week 1	Online video lectures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Introduction to the program – Overview of global mindset – Overview of global citizenship – Overview of global leadership
	Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Global pharmacy practice and challenges (case study) – Global health myths – Global leadership competencies
	Facilitated Group Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Connecting global and local health – Addressing global health misconceptions – Applying leadership qualities to further global health agendas
	Longitudinal Group Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Build initial relationships – Identify team leader – Identify global health problem for storyboard
Week 2	Readings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Key issues/agendas in global health (non-communicable diseases, universal health coverage, primary care access)
	Facilitated Group Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Application of global health agendas to pharmacy practice in high-income and low-to-middle income countries – Strategies to motivate action for global health issues – Review of longitudinal project progress
	Longitudinal Group Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identify risk factors and potential solutions for the identified global health problem (GLIDE framework)
Week 3	Longitudinal Group Assignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Create a story board addressing the identified global health problem and associated risk factors, considering topics discussed across global mindset, citizenship, and leadership

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327 Table 2. Student (N=46) Pre-post Growth for Statements on Global Mindset, Global Citizenship, and
 328 Global Leadership

Statement	Pre-Survey Mean (SD)	Post-Survey Mean (SD)	p value
Global Mindset			
1. I am aware of the global challenges the pharmacy profession faces.	3.59 (0.91)	4.39 (0.65)	<0.001*
2. I understand how local pharmacy issues have global implications.	3.72 (0.83)	4.394 (0.68)	<0.001*
3. I am open to new ideas from other countries, territories, and cultures	4.89 (0.38)	4.76 (0.43)	0.057
4. I appreciate the importance of having a global mindset	4.80 (0.40)	4.85 (0.36)	0.533
5. I am curious about aspects of pharmacy in other parts of the world.	4.87 (0.34)	4.83 (0.38)	0.598
Average for Global Mindset	4.37	4.64	<0.001
Global Citizenship			
6. I understand the impact of globalization on health.	4.33 (0.67)	4.63 (0.53)	0.003*
7. During my time as a student, I plan to be involved in activities that tackle global problems.	4.46 (0.75)	4.48 (0.69)	0.811
8. I feel a sense of responsibility for how the pharmacy profession advances.	4.39 (0.54)	4.54 (0.55)	0.090
9. I feel connected to the pharmacy profession worldwide.	3.43 (1.025)	4.24 (0.85)	<0.001*
10. I can work in equal partnership with individuals, community, and other organizations to bring about social change.	4.43 (0.58)	4.41 (0.62)	0.799
Average for Global Citizenship	4.21	4.46	<0.001
Global leadership			
11. I believe my actions can make a difference on a global scale.	3.93 (0.85)	4.22 (0.63)	0.011*
12. I have the potential to be a global leader in pharmacy.	4.20 (0.69)	4.28 (0.62)	0.420
13. I am able to grow and develop my leadership skills over time.	4.74 (0.44)	4.72 (0.46)	0.799
14. I am able to communicate the importance of global leadership to my peers.	4.07 (0.74)	4.37 (0.61)	0.033*
15. I am aware of the organizations and resources available to me that can assist with addressing global pharmacy challenges.	3.57 (0.98)	4.30 (0.63)	<0.001*
Average for Global Leadership	4.10	4.38	<0.001

329 Pre-post data self reported by students on a 5-point Likert Scale (1= strongly disagree; 5= strongly agree).
 330 before and after taking the GLIDE module. *statistically significant