

# New prescription

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Aaditi Isaac/TNN

**W**ith an endeavour to create a new cadre of researchers in the field of *unani* medicine in conjunction with modern medicine, who can work under proper regulation, Jamia Hamdard University will be launching a new course — integrated MSc PhD in clinical research (*unani*) in the coming academic session from June 2011.

Talking about the need for the course, GN Qazi, vice-chancellor, Jamia Hamdard University, stated that the *unani* system of medicine has become more popular now. “*Unani* medicines and herbal products for curing something as common as allergic cold or cough to something as chronic as osteoarthritis, are now easily available. We want the modern medicine system to validate the therapies provided by the traditional *unani* medicine system. For this purpose we have to create researchers who can undertake research under proper regulations.”

Enumerating the advantages of such a course, Qazi said, “Apart from gaining an in-depth knowledge of the traditional system of medicine, students will also

get to study the modern medicine system, which will enable them to work and research in labs. Usually in labs, people who are employed are from a modern system of medicine and do not have an understanding of the traditional *unani* medicine system. When students graduate from this course, they will have degrees, which will authorise them to conduct research without separately applying for licenses.”

Students will be trained jointly under the supervision of doctors from the *unani* system of medicine and the modern medicine. Practicing doctors can take up the course to improve their qualification.

Candidates will have to appear in an entrance examination where they will be tested on their aptitude and basic knowledge of the fundamentals of the system.

“Aspirants, who are already employed or are teaching medicine, will get lateral entry into the course and can complete their PhD in two-and-a-half years,” informed Qazi. Jamia Hamdard University will also be introducing a BA in Islamic studies and an MA in human rights through distance mode in the coming session.

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