

UPROOT: A Community-Based Approach to Decolonizing and Indigenizing the Pharmacy Curriculum

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UPROOT's Objectives

Our project seeks to strengthen, scaffold, and expand Indigenous content within the E2P-PharmD Program at UBC. This project focused on creating two courses:

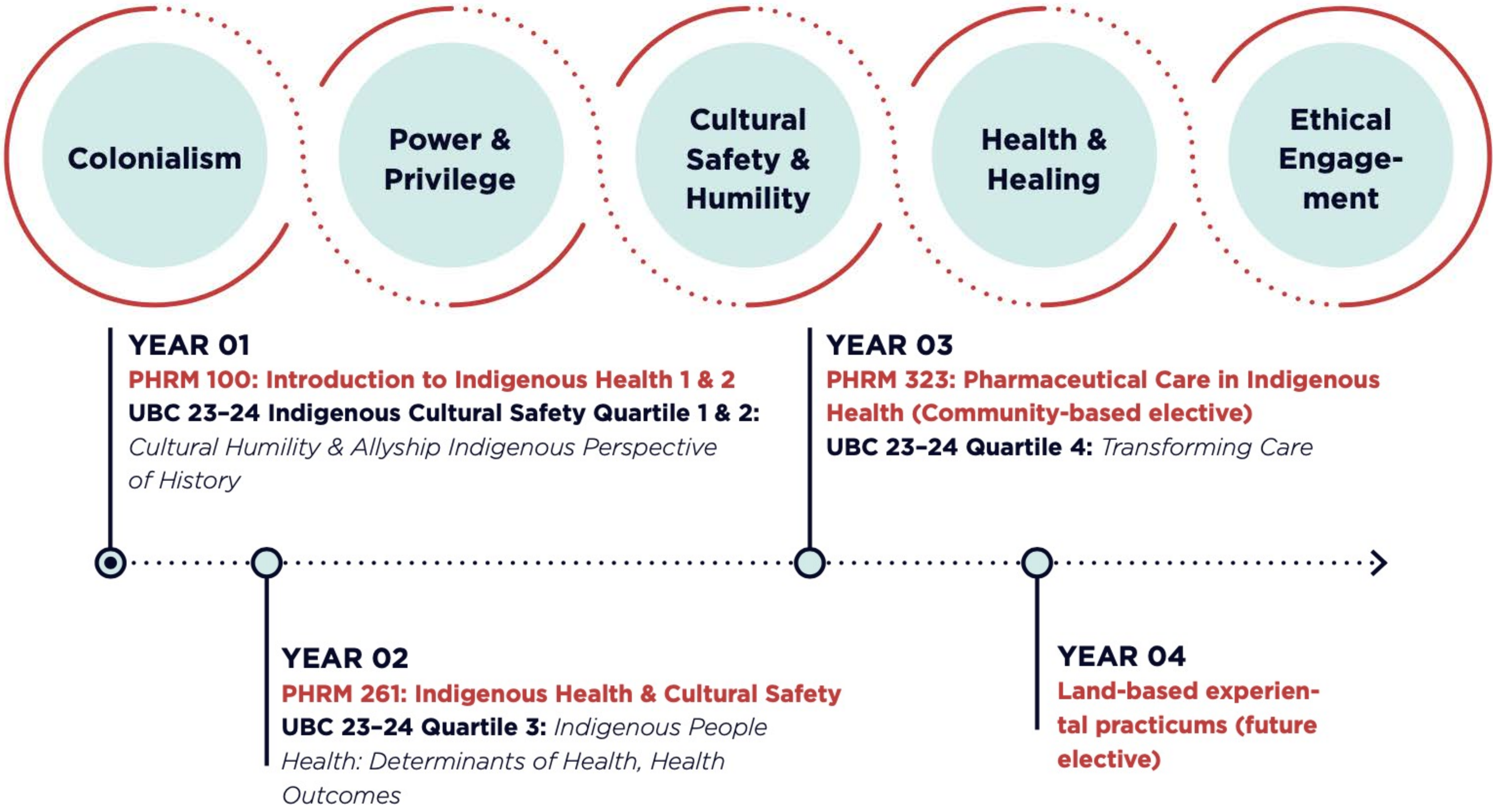
- 1) a mandatory pharmacy course on Indigenous health and cultural safety
- 2) an elective course using a blended-model of Indigenous community-based learning and classroom teaching.

Indigenous Curriculum Advisory Committee (ICAC)

The ICAC provides oversight and authority on UPROOT's curriculum development. More than 50% of members are Indigenous experts and students. There are four key ICAC principles: Cultural Safety, Humility, Reciprocity, and Indigenous Leadership.

Five Curricular Pillars

Developed in collaboration with the ICAC and from the best available evidence.



Mandatory Course PHRM 261: Indigenous Health and Cultural Safety

This course is an overview of Indigenous health in Canada and the role of pharmacists in providing culturally safe care and healing in collaboration with Indigenous communities. Students are challenged to balance Western evidence-based perspectives with traditional Indigenous knowledge systems.

Student Evaluations	2021 IM	2022 IM
The instructional methods facilitated achievement of the learning objectives.	4.8	4.7
Overall, I learned a great deal from this instructor.	4.8	4.7

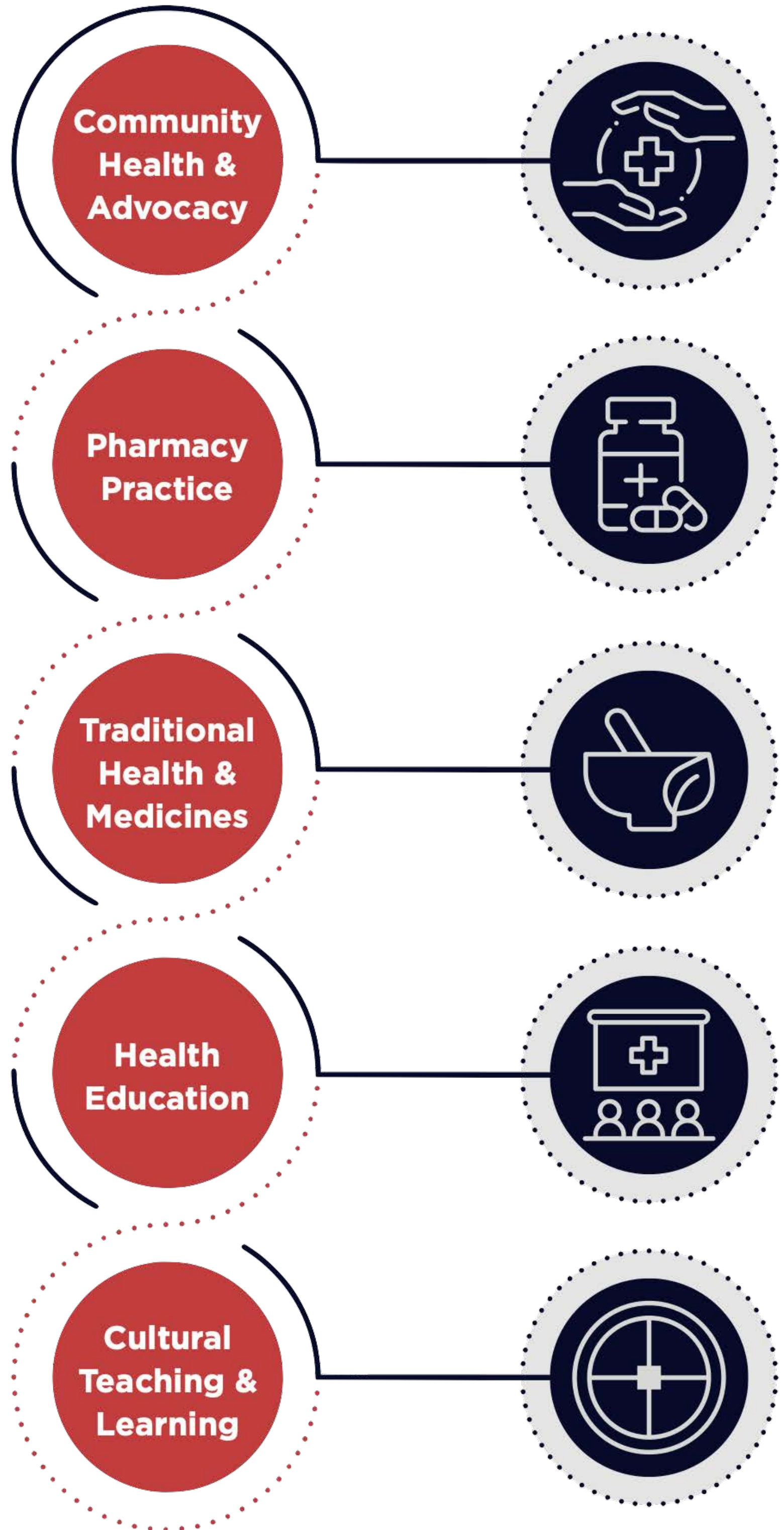
"The book club provided a very unique perspective that I did not have prior to reading - it changed my views and understanding of residential schools."

Elective Course: PHRM 323: Pharmaceutical Care in Indigenous Health

This course teaches students to work respectfully and collaboratively with Indigenous community partners.. Students are assigned projects based on community-identified needs and priorities This is an opportunity for ongoing reciprocity and lasting partnerships with Indigenous communities. Fourteen community projects have been completed over three years.

"I really appreciated the very open, honest in-class discussions and the safe place that this course provided to talk about things that may be uncomfortable."

"The community project was very valuable and taught me how to foster a relationship with a community partner and how to approach obstacles that may occur while providing culturally safe care. It was extremely valuable to have hands on experience."



2023 PHRM 323 Community Projects

- The Power of Stories: Thematic Storytelling Analysis
- Establishment of a First Nation-Owned Pharmacy
- Alcohol-Use Disorder Resource Guide
- Designing a Diabetes Self-Management Course
- Developing a Traditional Medicine Intake and Referral Form

323 Student Evaluations	2020 IM	2021 IM
The instructional methods facilitated achievement of the learning objectives.	4.9	4.8
Considering everything, I learned a great deal in this course.	5.0	4.9



Figure 1: Community Engagement Pathway

"Too often Indigenous topics are taught from healthcare provider perspectives... hearing about healthcare from Indigenous care providers is important."



Acknowledgement

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