SINGAPORE: Singapore’s newest medical school, jointly set up by Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Imperial College London, is ready for its first intake of 54 students in August 2013.

NTU said the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine has a complete first—year curriculum in place for its five—year programme, which places a lot of emphasis on team—based learning, simulation, the scientific basis of medicine and early clinical exposure.

Teaching materials to be used in the first—year timetable are being finalised and quality assured in London. All materials can be viewed from iPads issued to each student, allowing them to study as they move between the school’s two campuses, hospitals and polyclinics.

Students will have exposure to patients at Tan Tock Seng Hospital as well as other partner hospitals and polyclinics. They will also be learning through laboratory practicals at four teaching and research laboratories at NTU’s campus.

Over at Novena, where the second campus is located, new facilities for students include a 180—seat auditorium, a 60—seat seminar room for team—based learning, a student lounge as well as a medical library.

NTU also said students at the school will be the first in Southeast Asia to do virtual dissection on the latest Anatomage Table, which offers an interactive 3D experience. The table’s intuitive touch operation allows students, for example, to use a virtual knife to remove layers of tissue or to view the body’s internal structures and at the same time to fully rotate the body, all with the swipe of a finger.

Dean of the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, Professor Dermot Kelleher, said: “LKCMedicine is one of the few medical schools in the world to be using the Anatomage Table, and the only one in Southeast Asia. At Imperial, we have been using it to great effect in research and clinical settings, and at LKCMedicine, the table will be used primarily for anatomy education during the students’ first and second years.

"Users can also upload their own patient data, for example from MRI or CT scans, to showcase to students real patient anatomy in a life—size scale. The Anatomage Table may also be used for clinical and residency training in the future."

—CNA/ac