

# GP Clinical Observerships Information Brochure

28 Dec 2017

The following information has been prepared by our GP Liaison Officer to assist GPs and GP registrars seeking a clinical attachment at The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital.

We are pleased to inform you that we have limited capacity for GPs and GP registrars to observe and shadow our doctors in the Emergency Department for a period of half a day or up to 2 weeks from March to November each year (there are no placements between December and February).

Doctors who have undertaken an attachment have found this a useful and rewarding learning experience. Many have also successfully applied for RACGP category 1 points or ACRRM points in recognition of their learning experience.

Please note that all attachments are subject to availability and must be approved by the Director of Emergency Medicine, Dr Carmel Crock.

## What is it?

A clinical attachment is an opportunity to observe one or more doctors in our Specialised Emergency Department. Generally, you will meet the Director of Emergency Medicine who will act as your supervisor and familiarise you with staff and equipment and answer any queries. The Director will arrange for you to shadow the Eye or ENT admitting officer (or both). As an observer, you will not be permitted to treat patients as you are not indemnified.

## What sort of things might I see?

The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital Emergency Department has approximately 44,000 episodes of care each year of which two thirds are ophthalmic conditions and one third ENT. Sixty per cent of all Victorian eye emergencies are seen in our Emergency Department.

Examples of the conditions presenting to our Emergency Department are:

<b>Eye Emergencies</b>	<b>Cases per year:</b>
Chemical injury	355
Retinal detachment	324
Penetrating eye injury	140
Acute angle closure	240
Uveitis	850
Microbial keratitis	460
Corneal foreign body	1800
Corneal abrasion	1600
Posterior vitreous detachment	700
Viral conjunctivitis	1360
<b>ENT emergencies</b>	
Epistaxis	576
Post tonsillar haemorrhage	15-20
Sudden sensorineural hearing loss	138
Otitis media	
Otitis externa	
Ear cerumen	

\* It is highly recommended that clinical observers try to attend the medical handover at 7.45am Mondays to Fridays in room 10 of the Emergency Department.

## Eligibility

You must be a registered medical practitioner (proof will be required). All attachments are subject to availability and require approval by the Director of Emergency Medicine. You must sign a confidentiality agreement.

For Observers attending less than 7 days, a Statutory Declaration is required to be completed stating that you do not have any criminal convictions or matters pending in relation to offences involving children and/or drugs. For observers seeking a period of observership 7 days or greater, written approval for the Eye and Ear to perform a police clearance is required to be returned with acceptance of the Observership post.

How do I arrange a clinical attachment at the Eye and Ear ED?

Send an Expression of Interest to Kerryn Baker (see below). Detail your preferred dates and availabilities, your learning objectives, any specific skills you hope to observe and also if you wish to observe in one or more of our clinics. Please nominate which clinic(s), or nominate the Emergency Department, or both. Dates and specialties are subject to availability. However, we will endeavor to coordinate with our ED Director or a member of our Senior Medical Staff. Attachments on weekends or public holidays, or during the months of December through to February are not offered.

For a list of clinics, please go to [www.eyeandear.org.au/page/Health\\_Professionals/Referring\\_to\\_the\\_Eye\\_and\\_Ear/Our\\_Clinics/](http://www.eyeandear.org.au/page/Health_Professionals/Referring_to_the_Eye_and_Ear/Our_Clinics/)

Once approved, you are required to complete the application form and send it to Kerryn Baker, Medical Workforce and Support Unit.

T: (+61 3) 9929 8525

F: (+61 3) 9663 7203

[Kerryn.Baker@eyeandear.org.au](mailto:Kerryn.Baker@eyeandear.org.au)

along with a copy of:

- [Application form](#)
- Current certificate of registration with AHPRA
- A brief CV
- Criminal History Statutory Declaration - For Observers attending less than 7 days, a Statutory Declaration to be completed stating that they do not have any criminal convictions or matters pending in relation to offences involving children and/or drugs. Observers seeking a period of observership 7 days or greater, written approval for the Eye and Ear to perform a police clearance is required to be returned with acceptance of the observership post.
- Confidentiality agreement

Email your Expression of Interest for which clinic(s) or Emergency Department or both and your preferred dates to [Kerryn.Baker@eyeandear.org.au](mailto:Kerryn.Baker@eyeandear.org.au) along with completed forms and credentialing.

## Can I obtain recognition for professional education?

Previous observers have applied for and received ACRRM points and/or RACGP QI&CPD points.

Observers must arrange their own points and complete their own application forms. Some of this **must be done prior** to the attachment and **others brought with you** for comments and signing by your attachment supervisor.

Please refer to the RACGP website for [forms](#) and requirements for application for category 1 points (40 points) for a "Supervised Clinical Attachment". Note that a minimum of 10 contact hours is required to qualify for this. Alternately, GPs may self-record up to 10 hours of non-accredited education for category 2 points (2 points per hour).

To complete a self-directed activity with the RACGP, GPs should login to the RACGP website and navigate to 'My CPD' followed by 'self-directed activity' and choose from the list of self-directed activities (select 'Supervised Clinical Attachment').

[www.racgp.org.au/education/qicpd-program/gps/self-directed-learning/](http://www.racgp.org.au/education/qicpd-program/gps/self-directed-learning/)

## We value your feedback

We value your feedback, so once you have completed your GP clinical observership, please complete the questionnaire survey monkey. This will help us to improve the program and provide feedback to staff.

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/678PT2R](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/678PT2R)