welcome

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead (CHW) began caring for children in 1880 as the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children. CHW is the largest paediatric centre in New South Wales providing paediatric care across the state, Australia and the Pacific Rim. Over 50,000 sick children and their families are cared for each year. This care is achieved with 4000 employees working across 150- departments.

CHW is now part of the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network (Randwick and Westmead) which includes two paediatric hospitals as well as other paediatric specialist services including the Neonatal and paediatric Emergency Transport System (NETS), Pregnancy and newborn Services Network (PSN) and the Children’s Court Clinic.

We provide specialist paediatric care, combined with community education, advocacy for improved child health, research into childhood illnesses in a positive and caring environment.

speciality nursing transition programs

The Children’s Hospital at Westmead has developed transition programs for nursing staff in various specialty clinical areas of practice. The aim of these programs is to develop advanced understanding of their chosen clinical specialty through the development of advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills as well as increasing subject knowledge and clinical skills. Participation in a specialty transition program will also develop the nurse's skills for communicating with children and their families.

The speciality transition programs are mostly available to Registered Nurses; however some are available to Endorsed Enrolled Nurses and Enrolled Nurses.

The following speciality transition programs are available at CHW:
- Paediatric Emergency Nursing
- Paediatric Critical Care Nursing
- Paediatric Perioperative Nursing
- Paediatric Cardiac Nursing
- Paediatric Liver and Renal Nursing
- Neonatal Nursing
- Paediatric Orthopaedic Nursing
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Nursing
- Paediatric Oncology Nursing
conditions of employment:

employment details
Applicants to Speciality Transition Program must be a Registered Nurse with a minimum of 12 months post registration experience. All applicants must have current NSW Nurses registration. Nurses who do not fulfil these requirements will not be eligible for applying for and/or commencing the program.

Successful applicants to the program are given permanent employment to the speciality clinical area.

immunisation status
All participants must be fully vaccinated per NSW Health requirements prior to commencing the program at CHW. Evidence of protection against specified infectious diseases and TB screening must be provided and accepted by CHW prior to commencing the program.

commencement date
The commencement date for the STP will vary depending on the clinical area however most STPs will commence in February each year.

rosters and annual leave
Program participants will be expected to work a rotating roster, which includes mornings, evenings, nights, weekends and public holidays. Annual Leave will be available during the program.

uniform
Nurses at CHW are provided with a uniform package. Program participants are expected to wear the uniform in full. If the participant chooses to leave the hospital following the program, the uniform is to be returned in full to CHW.

accommodation
There is no on-site accommodation at CHW, however staff are able to apply for accommodation at nearby Westmead Hospital’s residential complex (subject to availability). All units provide basic accommodation and amenities, and the majority of units are available in shared four bedroom units. There are also limited rental properties available in the area. Please contact local real estate agents for further information.
eligibility
Programs are offered to both CHW employees and external nurses. To be eligible applicants must have a minimum of 12 months post registration experience as a Registered Nurse.

application process
All applications for the Specialty Transition Programs at CHW must be made via NSW Health’s online recruitment system Mercury eRecruit or through an Expression of Interest Form. Applications outside of this process will NOT be considered.

important dates
August – At the beginning of August each year positions will be advertised on NSW Health’s Mercury eRecruit.
September – Applications close at the beginning of September.
            Interviews are held in mid-end September
October – At the beginning of October offers of employment are made to successful applicants.

contact details
For further information about the Specialty Transition Programs at the Children’s Hospital at Westmead, please contact: Tara Wiese
            Nurse Educator – Specialty Transition Programs
            T: 9845 3638
            E: tara.wiese@health.nsw.gov.au

For specific information on the program of your interest, please contact the Program Coordinators directly. Contact details are provided below.
Paediatric Emergency Nursing Specialty Transition Program

Program Description
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead (CHW) Emergency Department sees a great number of unwell children every year. The program is designed to help registered nurses with limited experience in paediatric emergency nursing with the requisite knowledge and skills required to care for unwell infants and children presenting to the Emergency Department with medical and surgical conditions.

Through clinical experience and participation in the components of the structured learning activities, participants will develop increased knowledge and skills in assessing and recognising the unwell child and be able to apply appropriate interventions to care for the critically ill and deteriorating child.

Program Length
The Paediatric Emergency Nursing Clinical Accreditation Program (CAP) is a twelve month program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
The Paediatric Emergency Nursing Program consists of attendance at the following study days:
- Emergency Nursing Study Day
- Introduction to Paediatric Nursing (if novice paediatric nurse)
- Clinical Skills Day
- Resuscitation/Trauma Training

This Specialty Transition Program also consists of:
- Learning Goals
- Emergency Learning Packages: written & online
- Written reflective case studies
- Clinical case presentation
- Clinical Competency assessments

Why undertake this Program?
Following completion of the Paediatric Emergency Nursing Program and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will have met the requirements for a Clinical Accreditation Program (CAP) in Emergency Nursing. Participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning to obtain an exemption from the Specialty Clinical Practice subject of the Graduate Certificate in Acute Care Nursing at the University of Technology, Sydney. Recognition of Prior Learning can be sought for the programme at any tertiary institution.

For more information, please contact: Jenny Major
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E: jennifer.major@health.nsw.gov.au
paediatric critical care nursing
clinical accreditation program (CAP)

Program Description
The formal structure of the Paediatric Critical Care Nursing Program involves participation in a range of study days and learning programs, completion of online learning packages/modules, written reflective case reviews, a clinical case presentation and clinical competencies. A series of three professional workshops will be provided throughout the program, with each workshop focusing on the development of knowledge and skills.

All participants are given up to eight weeks supported time, as they are orientated to the Intensive Care Unit. In addition, each participant will be allocated two preceptors and who will act as role models to provide support, teach, and coach.

Program Length
The Paediatric Critical Care Nursing Clinical Accreditation Program (CAP) is a twelve month program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
The Paediatric Critical Care Nursing Program consists of attendance at these study days/workshops:
- Respiratory workshop
- Common illnesses present to the PICU study day
- Cardiac workshop
- Preceptor workshop

This Speciality Transition Program also consists of:
- Learning Goals
- Learning Packages: written & online
- Written reflective case studies
- Clinical case presentations
- PICU Accreditations & Competency assessments

Why undertake this Program?
Following completion of the Paediatric Critical Care Nursing Program and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will have met the requirements for a Clinical Accreditation Program (CAP) in Critical Care Nursing. Participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning to obtain an exemption from the Specialty Clinical Practice subject of the Graduate Certificate in Critical Care Nursing at the University of Technology, Sydney.

For more information, please contact: Rebecca Kelly
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paediatric perioperative nursing

specialty transition program

Program Description
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead (CHW) Perioperative Service includes: operating theatres (instrumental/circulating nursing), anaesthetic, post anaesthetic recovery, day surgery, cardiac catheterisation laboratory, neuro-vascular laboratory and the central sterilising unit.

The program aims to provide the registered nurse with the opportunity to gain clinical experience, knowledge, and skills to competently practice in the areas of circulating, instrument, anaesthetic, post anaesthetic recovery, and/or day surgery nursing.

The program is underpinned by work-based learning and specialty competency standards to develop the skills and critical thinking to further the participant’s ability to work with a multidisciplinary team, to reflect on practice and use a person and family centred care approach.

Program Length
The Paediatric Perioperative Nursing Clinical Accreditation Program (CAP) is a twelve month program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
This Paediatric Perioperative Nursing Clinical Accreditation Program consists of:

- Values statement
- Learning Contract
- 3 Workshops
- Case presentations
- Clinical Competency assessments
- Completion of Perioperative Staff Development Pathway and Paediatric Perioperative Introductory Program (PPIP) which involves 4 study days covering topics which include: the introduction to the roles of perioperative nursing, surgical procedures and terminology, anaesthesia and post-operative care.

Why undertake this Program?
The Paediatric Perioperative Nursing Specialty Transition Program, is a supported foundational program that provides participants the opportunity to develop competence through a planned program that enables experiential, reflective and provision of person centred care to children and their families.

Following completion of the Paediatric Perioperative Nursing Clinical Accreditation Program and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning to obtain an exemption from the Specialty Clinical Practice subject of the Graduate Certificate in Perioperative Nursing or the Graduate Certificate in Anaesthetics and Recovering Room Nursing at the University of Technology, Sydney.

For more information, please contact: Claudia Watson
Nurse Educator
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E: Claudia.watson@health.nsw.gov.au
paediatric cardiac nursing
clinical accreditation program (CAP)

Program Description
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead (CHW) is the second largest paediatric specialty unit in Australia. In NSW, CHW is one of the two centres with the capacity to provide specialised paediatric cardiac services.

The CAP (Paediatric Cardiac Nursing) consists of two self-directed learning modules together with assessment items. These core learning modules have a variety of clinically focused activities designed to enhance knowledge, skills and attitudes in regards to paediatric cardiac nursing.

By undertaking this program, participants are able to develop their knowledge on heart disease, cardiac assessment, and recognition and management of cardiac arrhythmias. Other practical key learning also include: perioperative care, management of chest drains, pacing and other immediate post-operative care.

Program Length
The CAP (Paediatric Cardiac Nursing) is a six month program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
This CAP (Paediatric Cardiac Nursing) consists of:
- Value statement
- Learning Contract
- Self-directed learning Modules:
  - Paediatric Cardiac Medical Nursing
  - Paediatric Cardiac Surgical Nursing
- Written and Verbal Case presentation
- Development of a professional portfolio
- Clinical experience day attendance
- Study Day attendance

Why undertake this Program?
Not only will the participant improve their knowledge and understanding of the nursing care of the cardiac paediatric patient, but following completion of the CAP (Paediatric Cardiac Nursing) and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning to obtain an exemption from the Specialty Clinical Practice subject of the Graduate Certificate in Children’s Nursing at the University of Technology, Sydney.

For more information, please contact: Nikita Barnard, Edith Salanga or Monique Dixon
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paediatric liver and renal nursing
speciality transition program

Program Description
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead clinical area Clancy Ward focuses on the care and welfare of children in New South Wales with liver and renal conditions alongside other clinical specialties. This includes caring for children pre and post liver transplant. The Liver and Renal Specialty Nursing Transition Program equips the registered nurse with the skills and confidence to successfully integrate known theory with practice in the acute clinical setting. The program enables participants to deliver person centred care by developing specific knowledge and skills in the liver and renal clinical context.

The Liver and Renal Specialty Nursing Transition Program structure consists of Liver and Renal Nursing Study Days, completion of a self-directed learning package, clinical experience hours, written case review and clinical competencies.

Program Length
The Liver and Renal Specialty Nursing Transition Program is a twelve month program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
This Speciality Transition Program consists of satisfactory completion of:
- Learning Goals
- Workbook
- Clinical competencies
- Clinical experience
- Written and verbal case presentation
- Written reflection
- Attendance at Liver and Renal Study Days (2 days)
- Peritoneal Dialysis accreditation

Why undertake this Program?
Following the completion of the Liver and Renal Specialty Nursing Transition Program and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning to obtain an exemption from the Specialty Clinical Practice subject of the Graduate Certificate in Children’s Nursing at the University of Technology, Sydney. Participants may also wish to seek advanced standing for their work in Children’s nursing with other universities and educational institutions.

For more information, please contact: Dorothea Haughan or Susan Klemesrud
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neonatal nursing
specialty transition program

Description
Grace Centre for Newborn Care (GCNC) offers a unique Neonatal Intensive Care Service within the state, operating as the only ‘outborn’ Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). GCNC provides a combination of services which include complex medical, general surgical, and cardiac surgery. There are two areas within GCNC: High Dependency Unit (HDU) and Neonatal Intensive care unit (NICU). Participants commence in the HDU and are transitioned to NICU during the twelve month program.

The Neonatal Nursing Speciality Transition Program has been designed to support staff new to the neonatal clinical setting to acquire knowledge and skills through formal and work based learning opportunities while providing care for neonates and their families with surgical conditions.

Program Length
The Neonatal Speciality Transition Program runs as a twelve month program and is offered annually or biannually depending on vacant positions in the unit

Program Components
This Speciality Transition Program consists of:
- Learning Goals
- Learning Packages
- Attendance at relevant study days
- Clinical experience with the Developmental Follow up Clinic
- Written & Verbal Case presentations
- Clinical Competency assessment
- Clinical supervision

Why undertake this Program?
Following completion of the Neonatal Nursing Speciality Transition Program and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning in a postgraduate subject towards a Graduate Certificate in Neonatal Intensive Care Nursing at either the Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery and Health at The University of Technology, Sydney or The University of Tasmania.

For more information, please contact: Nadine Griffiths
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Program Description
The Paediatric Orthopaedic Program is designed to provide a foundation for developing knowledge and skill for nurses practicing within this sub specialty area. In this program, there are two modules which aim to develop the participant’s knowledge and skills in orthopaedic nursing.

Participants enrolled in the Paediatric Orthopaedic Program complete either Stream A or Stream B. Stream A participants complete Module 1 only and Stream B participants complete both Module 1 and Module 2. Recognition of Prior Learning for Module 1 may be granted to those staff who have worked in Orthopaedic Ward for a substantial period of time.

Module 1 prerequisites:
- Registered Nurses with 12 months post registration experience; or
- Newly appointed Registered Nurses to the Orthopaedic Unit; or
- Enrolled Nurses; or
- Endorsed Enrolled Nurses

Module 2 prerequisites:
- Registered Nurses who have completed Module 1 or have been granted RPL for Module 1.

Program Length
The Paediatric Orthopaedic Program consists of 2 modules. Each module is to be completed within 6 months, with a total of twelve (12) months for the Paediatric Orthopaedic Program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
Each learning Module (Module 1 and Module 2) consists of satisfactory completion of:
- Workbook
- Written reflective case study
- Clinical competency assessments
- Tutorial and workshops
- Clinical rounds/clinical experience in clinic
- REACH self-assessment

Why undertake this Program?
Following the completion of both Module 1 and Module 2 of the Paediatric Orthopaedic Program and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning to obtain an exemption from the Specialty Clinical Practice subject of the Graduate Certificate in Children's Nursing at the University of Technology, Sydney.

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Program Description
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead takes pride in providing holistic care for children and adolescents with a mental health condition. The program is designed to support staff new to the paediatric mental health setting to acquire knowledge and skills through formal and work based learning opportunities while providing care for children and their families with mental health conditions.

There will opportunities for participants to rotate between two clinical settings: Hall Ward (Acute Mental Health Ward) and Wade Ward (Adolescent Ward) to gain diverse clinical experiences.

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Nurse Specialty Transition Program consists of attendance at the Introduction to Child and Adolescent Mental Health study days, self-directed learning workbook, e-learning components including podcasts, written and verbal case presentation, and mastery of clinical competencies.

Program Length
The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Nurse Specialty Transition Program is a twelve month program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
This Speciality Transition Program consists of:
- Learning Goals
- Workbook
- Clinical competencies
- CAMHS Podcast
- Clinical experience, for example, attendance at the Anxiety clinic, Eating disorder clinic and participation in family assessments
- Written and verbal case presentation
- Written reflection of learning experiences and application to the work environment
- Mandatory attendance the Introduction to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Nursing Study Days (2 days).

Why undertake this Program?
Following the completion of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Nurse Specialty Transition Program and receiving satisfactory outcomes in all assessable components, participants will be eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning to obtain an exemption from the Specialty Clinical Practice subject of the Graduate Certificate in Children’s Nursing at the University of Technology, Sydney. Successful participants are also eligible to apply for recognition of prior learning in the subject of the Graduate Certificate in Mental Health Nursing.

For more information, please contact:
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Program Description
The Children’s Hospital at Westmead Oncology Services focuses on the care and welfare of infants, children, adolescents and young adults with oncological conditions. The program is designed to support staff new to the paediatric oncology setting to acquire knowledge and skills through formal and work based learning opportunities while providing care for children and their families with oncological conditions.

The Paediatric Oncology Specialty Transition program intends to equip the nurse with the skills and confidence to successfully integrate theory with practice in the paediatric oncology setting. There are two wards within Oncology Services and participants will rotate through both Camperdown and Variety Wards to offer a diversified paediatric oncological clinical experience.

Participants will be aligned with either Stream A or Stream B. Stream A is for participants that were not a part of the First Year Registered Nurse Transition Program in Oncology Services. Stream B is for those who completed the First Year Registered Nurse Transition Program in Oncology Services (Camperdown and Variety Wards).

Program Length
The Paediatric Oncology Nursing Program is a twelve month program.

Attendance/Requirements for completion
The Paediatric Oncology Program consists of attendance at these study days/workshops:
- Nursing Management of Children with Cancer (2 day program)
- High Dependency Study Day
- Cytotoxic Administration Study Day

This Speciality Transition Program also consists of satisfactory completion of:
- Learning Goals
- Workbook
- Clinical scenario assessments
- Written case presentation
- Written reflective essay
- Clinical competencies
- Paediatric Oncology Nursing Clinical Assessment
- Clinical experience hours including Outreach services, Oncology Treatment Centre, adolescent and Young Adults and Long Term Follow Up.

Why undertake this Program?
To enter into the paediatric oncology workforce in a supported program
To gain knowledge and clinical skills in paediatric oncology nursing
To experience the role of the paediatric oncology nurse throughout the patient journey

For more information, please contact: Julieann Browning
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