



Nursing, Sunshine Coast University Hospital Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and Paediatric Critical Care Unit (PCCU)

Location

6 Doherty Street,
Birtinya Qld 4575
Phone: 5202 2555
Purple Lifts Level 2

Placement Details

The Paediatric Critical Care Unit is located in pod 3 and has a four-bed capacity. Depending of the acuity of the patients. There will be a variety of conditions and disease processes in PCCU for example but not limited to:

- Respiratory failure requiring ventilation support-ARDs
- Asthma/RSV/Bronchiolitis/Pertussis
- Trauma
- Status Epilepticus
- Congenital disorders
- Metabolic disorders
- Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA)

The intensive care model integrates intensive care and high dependency patients ensuring safe de-escalation of care for critically ill patients. The Intensive Care Unit at SCUH is currently developing services which will ultimately provide care for up to 40 patients across 4 pods and incorporating complex neurosurgical, ECMO and cardiothoracic surgeries. There will be a variety of conditions and disease processes in ICU for example but not limited to;

- Central nervous system (CNS) conditions i.e. Guillain Barre
- Head injuries/Intra-cerebral bleeds
- Complex/complicated Ear Nose and Throat (ENT)/Vascular surgery/Orthopaedic
- Type one and type two respiratory patients requiring ventilation support
- Sepsis
- Gastrointestinal surgery and disease processes
- Multi-trauma
- Significant cervical spine injuries (not spinal cord injuries)
- Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA)

Education and training are vital to maintain skills and knowledge in this critical care environment, the ICU team is actively involved in education and training. As a member of our team during your clinical placement you are encouraged and supported to participate in all educational activities to develop clinical and communication skills. This is your Clinical Placement and your opportunity to develop clinical skills in ICU. The skills and knowledge you can gain during this placement will be beneficial in supporting you in your future nursing career. Most importantly you will develop skills in safety, physical assessment, planning and implementation of care for critically ill patients.

Learning Objectives/Opportunities

- Assessment, prioritisation and time management skills
- Primary Survey and Secondary Survey (Head to Toe Assessment)
- Performing ECGs and basic Rhythm Interpretation
- Complex medication management including Management of transfusions and infusions
- Insertion and management of nasogastric tubes (NGT)
- Insertion and management of indwelling catheters (IDC)



- Basic and Advanced life support measures
- Post procedure care, observations and management
- Participating/observing in deteriorating patients and medical emergencies
- Invasive Ventilation
- Tracheostomy management and care
- Arterial blood gas analysis

Pre- reading/revisiting – Anatomy and Pathophysiology and Comprehensive assessment and prioritisation of complex care would be recommended prior to commencement of clinical placement.