



## Nursing, Sunshine Coast University Hospital Mental Health - Older Persons Inpatient Unit

### Location

#### Mental Health Inpatient Units

Dunlop Lane (Entrance 5), Off Barney Moy Lane

Birtinya QLD 4575

Phone: 5202 2266

### Shift Times

Early (E)	Early (EF)	Late (LE)	Late (L)	Night (ZW)	Night (N)
0700 - 1530	0700 - 1330	1300 - 2130	1430 - 2300	2100 - 0730	2245 - 0715

Shift times may vary dependant on the clinical requirements of each area, please ensure you are familiar with your rostered shift times and any variances at commencement of placement (weekend shift times etc.)

### Placement Details

An Older Persons' Acute Inpatient Unit (OPMHU) provides assessment, collaborative treatment and discharge planning for people over the age of 65, who present with severe and complex psychiatric disorder. Inpatient services are specifically designed to provide voluntary and involuntary, short to medium term care for consumers with mental illness and often medical co-morbidities. Specialist staff assess a range of psychiatric, social and medical conditions and generate appropriate treatment and risk management plans.

### Learning Objectives/Opportunities

- Assess the health status of a consumer e.g. Mental Status Examination; Mini Mental State Examination and be able to document this appropriately.
- Implement nursing interventions for responding to alterations in consumer's mental status, fluid balance and nutritional status
- Demonstrate an understanding of the specific pharmacological agents used in contemporary mental health care
- Demonstrate an awareness of how risk is identified within contemporary mental health care, and how it is managed
- Participate in referral of consumers for intra agency/specialist support
- Assist in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the consumer's continuity of care
- Identify legal, ethical and/or professional standards that apply to the care of assigned consumers
- Learn about and observe Electroconvulsive treatment (ECT).
- Be able to demonstrate an awareness of the Mental Health Act and other relevant acts of legislation used within contemporary mental health care e.g. Guardianship Act
- Evaluate progress towards expected consumer outcomes
- Communicate with members of the interdisciplinary health care team
- Communicate with clients in stressful circumstances e.g. loss and grief; anxiety and perceptual abnormalities
- Maintain ethical and legal standards of documentation in consumer's medical records

**Pre- reading/revisiting** - Mental Health Care and Health, Law and Ethics and an understanding of the Mental Health Act Qld would be recommended prior to commencement of clinical placement.