



Nursing, Sunshine Coast University Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine (DEM)

Location

6 Doherty Street,
Birtinya Qld 4575
Phone: 5202 2255
Ground Floor

Shift Times

Early (E)	Late (LE)	Night (ZW)
0700 - 1530	1300 - 2130	2100 - 0730

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

The Department of Emergency Medicine (DEM) is a clinical area which provides rapid assessment, with early referral and intervention from allied health, priority investigations and a multidisciplinary approach from diagnosis to discharge/transfer. Patients presenting to DEM must be assessed, treated and be ready for discharge or, if requiring further inpatient care, be transferred to the appropriate inpatient ward/facility within 4 hours of admission. The Short Stay Unit in DEM provides short term (usually from 1-24 hours) inpatient-level care for those patients expected to be fit for discharge within 24 hours

Common admission criteria:

- Neurological Conditions – Seizure/Transient Ischemic attack (TIA), Cerebrovascular accident (CVA), Syncope & Collapse, Migraine, Confusion, Head Injury
- Cardiac Conditions – Chest pain/Myocardial infarction (MI)/Heart Failure/Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD), Atrial Fibrillation/Flutter
- Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) /Pulmonary Embolism (PE)
- Fever/Sepsis
- Respiratory Conditions – Infections, Chronic Obstructive Airway Disease, Asthma, Acute Pulmonary Oedema (APO)
- Diabetes - Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA), Hypo/Hyperglycemia
- Gastrointestinal System Conditions – Abdominal pain/bleeding, Bowel Obstructions
- Obstetric issues – hyperemesis, early pregnancy pain/PV bleeding
- Kidney and Urinary Tract – Infections, Renal Calculi
- Mental Health
- Alcohol/substance abuse
- Wounds/Fractures/Dislocations
- Trauma/Road Traffic accidents
- Multiple Co-morbidities requiring assessment

Learning Objectives/Opportunities

- Developing primary/secondary and assessment skills
- Prioritisation skills
- Time management skills
- Management of transfusions and infusions
- Indwelling catheter (IDC) insertion and management
- Nasogastric tube (NGT) insertion and management
- Basic and Advanced life support measures
- Participating/observing in deteriorating patients and medical emergencies



- Participating/observing in health education and advanced communication skills
- Liaising with Medical and Allied Health services to facilitate admission to discharge

Pre- reading/revisiting – Anatomy and Pathophysiology. Comprehensive assessment and prioritisation of complex care would be recommended prior to commencement of clinical placement. Prereading on National Emergency Access Target (NEAT) would also be beneficial.