

# SURGICAL, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES (STARS) AND ROYAL BRISBANE AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL (RBWH)



## GERIATRIC MEDICINE SERVICE DESCRIPTION – RMO CAMPAIGN 2025

Number of Core Training Positions accredited: 4

Number of Core Training Positions available for 2024: 4

Number of Elective Training Positions accredited: NIL

Duration of Training Accredited: 24 MONTHS

Contacts: Dr Joseph Tan [Joseph.tan@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Joseph.tan@health.qld.gov.au) , Dr Lisa Kelly [lisa.kelly@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:lisa.kelly@health.qld.gov.au)

### Description of Service

#### STAFF:

**Geriatricians:** Dr. Kana Appadurai, Dr Joseph Tan, Dr Denise Hobson, Dr Aparna Arjunan, Dr. Robert O'Sullivan, Dr Alison Cutler, Dr Shanathi Kanagarajah, Dr Elizabeth Waldie and Dr Stella Lin.

**Rehabilitation Physicians:** Dr Julia McLeod, Dr Cassandra McLennan, Dr Meredith Ogilvie-Brown, Dr Sarah Anderson, Dr Leah Goodwin and Dr Vikram Joshi.

#### PROGRAM:

Geriatric and Rehabilitation Services is located across 2 sites on the Herston Campus at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) and Surgical, Treatment and Rehabilitation Services (STARS). STARS is a new facility for Metro North and it commenced operations in February 2021. The Geriatric and Rehabilitation Services has services across 2 facilities as outlined below:

- 80 Inpatient rehabilitation beds across 3 wards (STARS)
- Day hospital – 5-day service (STARS)
- 28 bed Geriatric Evaluation and Management (GEM) Unit (STARS)
- Geriatric and Rehabilitation Liaison Service (GRLS) – RBWH
- Liaison service to Acute Stroke Unit (RBWH)
- Orthogeriatric Service located in acute orthopaedic ward (RBWH)
- Residential Aged Care District Assessment and Referral (RADAR) Service
  - AT positions shared 2<sup>nd</sup> yearly with Department of Emergency Medicine
- Specialist clinics (Memory disorder, Geriatric Assessment (Incl Falls), Rehabilitation Assessment, Spasticity Management Clinic) – Day hospital premises at STARS

There are 3 full time and 6 part time Geriatricians. 1 Fulltime and 5 part time Rehabilitation

physicians.

The advanced trainees may work on a 3 monthly or 6 monthly rotations across 4 core areas so as to maximise experiences in the different aspects of the service. Rotations will be across STARS and RBWH.

**Number/type of Geriatric Beds:**

**1. 80 Rehabilitation beds at STARS**

Mix of elderly and younger aged persons for rehabilitation

**2. 28 GEM beds at STARS**

GEM model of care

**3. Orthogeriatric (Geri-Trauma) Service**

- Peri-operative assessment and management as well as rehabilitation of elderly patients with upper and lower limb fractures, multi-trauma etc.
- Medical management of Younger orthopaedic patients with Medical problems or complications (on consultation basis)

**Specialty Clinics:**

- Memory Clinic
- Geriatric Assessment ( incl. Falls) Clinic
- Rehabilitation Assessment Clinic
- Spasticity Management Clinic

**Consult Services:**

**Geriatric and Rehabilitation Liaison Service**

(Consultant, Registrar, Clinical Nurse Consultant and Allied Health staffing)

Hospital wide service that provides a single point of contact for all referrals for Rehabilitation and GEM patients including TCP

**RADAR Royal:**

Shared care management service located at the Emergency Department RBWH for safe management of elderly patients presenting to ED from RACF. Offer both onsite management in ED as well as outreach service to RACF. Has a mix of Geriatrician, ED physician, Registrar and clinical nurses in the service.

**The Registrar position for RADAR is not available for 2025.** (Occupied by Geriatric trainee on alternate years)

**Outpatient Clinics/Day Hospital:**

Day hospital service: Monday - Friday  
All specialist clinics located at Day hospital premises at STARS. Registrars attend the Memory and Geriatric Assessment clinics, Day therapy for patients post discharge from Acute or Subacute Inpatient services or referrals from Community / GP

**Formal Training**

**Lectures:**

Weekly Statewide Geriatric Medicine lectures held at The Prince Charles Hospital (TPCH) or via Videoconference

**Journal Club / Geriatric seminars:**

- Weekly Journal club and Teaching sessions at department on Thursday mornings
- Monthly Geriatric seminars on Wednesday mornings

**Grand Rounds:**

Weekly Medical grand rounds

**Consultant Rounds:**

3 - 4 per week

<p><b>Other Specialty Links:</b> Strong links with Rehabilitation, Internal Medicine and other Medical and Surgical specialist services at RBWH</p>	<p><b>Protected time per week:</b> Up to 4 hours per week</p>
<p><b>Information Infrastructure</b></p>	
<p><b>Library:</b> UQ Herston Medical Library located at RBWH. Currently only Online services available</p>	<p><b>IT:</b> Access to computers at STARS (Fully Digital hospital) with Internet access and access to UQ library, KKN and other databases online</p>
<p><b>Research;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memory clinic</li> <li>• STARS Education and Research Alliance</li> <li>• Collaboration with University of Queensland, UQCCR and TPCH</li> </ul>	<p><b>Quality Assurance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical Audits</li> <li>• Morbidity and Mortality meetings</li> <li>• Research Projects for college training requirements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Trainee Responsibilities</b></p>	
<p><b>Coverage Roster:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekend ward rounds on Saturday and Sunday on a rotational basis</li> <li>• Participation in after-hours roster for Registrar shifts at RBWH ( ~1x/mth)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ward responsibilities/workload:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for 15 inpatients with support of 1 Resident medical officer (Geriatric Rehab ward)</li> <li>• Responsible for 14 inpatients with support of 1 RMO (GEM)</li> <li>• Orthogeriatric Service – approx 15 patients – supported by Ortho RMO and part time Geriatrician</li> <li>• GRLS – consultation liaison service supported by Geriatrician</li> </ul>
<p><b>Consultations:</b> Core responsibility while on rotation with Geriatric and Rehabilitation Liaison Service – will work with an MDT and part-time Geriatrician</p>	<p><b>Specialist Clinic coverage:</b> Encouraged to rotate through all specialist clinics during training</p>
	<p><b>Research/presentations:</b> Presentations at Journal club and Teaching sessions Grand round presentation Ferrier Teaching sessions at RBWH Mortality and Morbidity review meetings Research through memory / geriatric clinics and inpatients</p>
<p><b>Teaching responsibilities:</b> Medical students and RMOs</p>	<p><b>Rotations available and opportunities for flexible training:</b> 4 rotations of 3 months each through Rehab (GARU), GEM, Ortho-geriatrics and GRLS / Stroke Liaison.</p>