

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL

Geriatric Medicine Service Description

RMO CAMPAIGN 2025

Number of Core Training Positions accredited: 7 (1 registrar retained for BPT training)

Number of Elective Training Positions accredited: N/A

Duration of Training Accredited: 24 months

Contact: A/Prof Paul Varghese Paul.Varghese@health.qld.gov.au

Description of Service

STAFF:

Director Geriatric Med	1.0FTE	Assoc Prof Paul Varghese	Bunya	26	Registrar 1.0 FTE	RMO 1.0FTE (Resident Medical Officer)
SMO Geriatric Med/UQ Assoc Prof	0.6 FTE	Assoc Prof Salih Salih				
SMO Geriatric Med	0.7 FTE	Dr Phil Aitken	Cassia	26	Registrar 1.0 FTE	RMO 1.0 FTE
Professor/SMO Geriatric Med	0.5FTE	Prof Ruth Hubbard				
SMO Geriatric Med	0.4 -0.5 FTE	Dr Emily Gordon	Banksia (Acute Cute Cognitive Unit - ACU)	18 8(ACU)	Registrar 1.0 FTE	RMO 1.0FTE
SMO Geriatric Med	0.5 FTE	Dr Aparna Arjunan Term 1 Dr Lisa Kelly Term 2				
SMO Geriatric Med	0.3FTE	Dr Lisa Kelly	Telehealth Roma, Memory clinic			

SMO Geriatric Med	0.5 FTE	Dr Ali Beglou	Orthogeriatric Registrar Consults		Registrar 1.0FTE	
SMO OPMH		Dr G Smith Dr Q Tran	Psychogeriatric Registrar		Registrar 1.0FTE	
SMO Geriatric Med	0.6FTE	Dr Elena Klestov	Telegeriatrics Warwick, Dalby, Kingaroy, Central west. Reedlands TCP Community Registrar		Registrar 1.0FTE	
SMO Geriatric Med	0.2FTE	Dr Aparna Arjunan	GEDI clinics			
SMO Geriatric Med	0.5FTE	Dr Lillian Wong	GEMITH		Registrar 1.0 FTE	

PROGRAM

The PAH GARU is part of the Metro South Health District and is the largest Geriatric and Rehabilitation service in the district. The 76 geriatric beds are complemented by a 16bed psychogeriatric unit and two statewide specialty rehabilitation services (26 bed acquired Brain Injury Unit and a 40 bed Acute Spinal injury unit). Outreach services are provided to ACAT, Redlands Hospital, TCP, and a number of rural sites via telemedicine (Dalby, Kingaroy, Warwick, Roma, Central West). The PAH Geriatric Unit is closely allied with the Centre for Research in Geriatric Medicine (CRGM), University of QLD.

Number/type of Geriatric Beds:

78 General Geriatric and Rehabilitation beds (including 8 bed Acute Cognitive unit for patients with BPSD)
16 Psychogeriatric beds (under Older Persons Mental Health)

Specialty Clinics:

Geriatric Medicine Clinics
Memory Clinic
Falls and Balance Clinic
GEDI clinics

Consult Services:

Multidisciplinary Geriatric and Rehabilitation Consultancy Service -5 days a week.
Orthogeriatric Consultative services for all NOFs and orthopaedic patients over 75 years
Stroke Liaison Service -7 days a week

Domiciliary Assessment:

Domiciliary assessments are performed on GP referral to the unit or conjoint visits with the local ACAT. Links with District Dementia Outreach Service provides opportunities for community dementia work.
3 geriatricians are ACAT delegates

	GEMITH program
Outpatient Clinics/Day Hospital: An active Day Hospital serves as the location for rehabilitation services and all outpatient clinics.	
Formal Training	
Lectures: Weekly Unit Seminar program	Journal Club: Weekly Geriatric Journal Club
Grand Rounds: Medical Grand Round weekly 2 monthly MD Geriatric Unit Grand Rounds Monthly CRGM research seminar program.	Consult Rounds: 3 formal geriatric consult rounds weekly 2 Stroke rounds weekly Weekly orthogeriatric rounds and case conference
Other Specialty Links: Strong links with the Acute Stroke Unit, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Urology and Older Person's Mental Health Monthly Radiology meeting Weekly Uro-geriatric meeting with staff urologist	Protected time per week: 2 hours VC education session. Weekly afternoon off for research. Grand rounds, weekly Seminar program and Journal Club are protected
Information Infrastructure	
Library: PAH is a training hospital of the University of Queensland and as a tertiary hospital has a large library onsite	IT: Full access to internet, journals, CKN. UpToDate
Research: Links with CRGM	Quality Assurance: Monthly Morbidity and Mortality meetings. Regular Audits
Trainee Responsibilities	
Coverage Roster: Weekend unit cover 1 in 6 Registrars participate infrequently in the Hospital Med B registrar shifts	Ward responsibilities/workload: Responsible for 26 bed geriatric ward or 16 bed psychogeriatric ward (shared with a psychiatry registrar). The Community and Research registrars both have a telemedicine caseload. Orthogeriatrician supervises the research/ orthogeriatric registrar for NOFs and orthopaedic patients over 75
Consultations:	Specialist Clinic coverage:

<p>Consults are fielded by registrars on a roster by day of week with follow-up consultant rounds held 3 times a week</p>	<p>Specialty clinics are routinely attended depending on unit rotation</p>
<p>Domiciliary assessments / ACAT assessments: Done on request. Registrars are able to attend residential care visits supervised by Dr Varghese ACAT assessments for the PAH are undertaken by the Geriatric Unit Community Registrar position with RACF, Domicillary, TCP and ACAT attendance</p>	<p>Research/presentations: Close working relationship with academic unit (CRGM) permits support for trainee projects and assistance with study design and statistical methods.</p>
<p>Teaching responsibilities: Registrars teach medical students from years 1 through to 4 with 4th year and overseas students attending the unit as an elective term. 3rd year students attend the unit for an 8 week term as part of the medicine in society program.</p>	<p>Rotations available and opportunities for flexible training: Opportunities exist for rotations in specialty rehab (spinal and Brain Injury).</p>