



Discovery Program Theatre

**Perioperative
Clinical Nurse Educators**



What is Perioperative Nursing ?

Perioperative nursing is a critical care area of nursing

It attracts nurses who:

- Have an interest in providing high quality care for patients who are very vulnerable and who need nurses to be their advocate
- Have a strong desire to work in a close knit team of nursing, medical and allied health professionals
- Who are quick thinking, highly organised and enjoy the challenges of working in a busy, dynamic and rewarding environment



Roles Nurses have in the Perioperative Environment ?

Perioperative nurses care for patients in the period prior, during and following surgery

Nursing roles include:

- Holding Bay Nurse
- Circulating Nurse (Scout)
- Instrument Nurse (Scrub)
- Anaesthetic Nurse
- Postanaesthetic Recovery Nurse (Recovery)

Perioperative Student Profile

- Post Graduate
- Discovery
- GNP
- Undergraduate

Perioperative Unit at Western Health

Currently across 4 campuses:

- Footscray 6 theatres
- Sunshine 6 Theatres and 2 Procedure Rooms
- Williamstown 4 Theatres
- Sunbury 2 Procedure Rooms

Future:

- Women's and Children's 4 Theatres



Surgical Specialities

- Endoscopy
- ENT / Head and Neck
- General surgery
- Neurology
- Obstetric
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedics
- Plastics
- Thoracic
- Urology
- Vascular



Holding Bay





Typical Operating Theatre





Theatre in Action!





Scrub Nurse





PACU





Aim of the Discovery program

Aim of program is to facilitate participants development of foundational knowledge and clinical skills required to practice safely and effectively in the Peri operative environment.

Discovery Program Structure

- Is a 6 month supported program for registered nurses with little or no experience in the speciality of Perioperative Scrub/Scout or Anaesthetics/PACU nursing.
- 6 month fixed term contract
- Minimum clinical hours: 66 hours/fortnight (employed at a minimum of 0.7EFT). Full time is preferred
- Two supernumerary weeks are included in this time



Discovery Program Structure *(continued)*

- Participants are rotated through the different specialities offered at the campus they are based.
- Anaesthetic/PACU students are given a 3 month rotation in each speciality.
- There are 3 allocated paid study days

Clinical & theoretical knowledge & skills

Scrub/Scout	Anaesthetic/PACU
Aseptic technique	Monitoring devices
Counting for accountable items	Components of anaesthetic machine
Electrosurgical equipment & safety	General, regional, block anaesthesia
Infection prevention	Emergencies during anaesthesia
Patient positioning	Special anaesthetic considerations
Intra operative preparation	Airway management
Reprocessing of reusable items	Pre operative patient assessment
Surgical Plume	Introduction to PACU nursing
Specimen Handling	Preparation for anaesthetics
Radiation	Introductions to PACU nursing
Scrubbing Gowning & Gloving	Preparation of PACU environment
Surgical instruments	Anaesthetic agents
Sutures	Patient assessment in PACU
Surgeons preferences	Post anaesthetic complications



Support and Pathway

- Throughout the structured program, specialist clinical educators and preceptors provide participating staff with clinical, educational and professional support.
- Successful completion of the Theatre Discovery Program is recognised by a wide variety of universities and credit is granted towards Post Graduate Certificate/Diploma/Masters programs.

Clinical Assessment

Satisfactory completion of :

- Minimum amount of clinical hours (858) hours for entire program)
- Clinical Competencies
- Interim Appraisal (3 months)
- Final Appraisal (6 months)



Theoretical Assessment

Satisfactory completion of :

- 5 SMART objectives
- Presentation
- Log Book
- Case Study
- Workbook

*****NB - Must achieve 80% to pass theoretical component.***

Application Process

Selection process through eRecruit:

- <https://westernhealth.mercury.com.au/>
- Registered with AHPRA
- Interview
- Reference Checks
- (Internal theatre, internal WH, external)



Benefits of working in theatre

- Enjoyable environment
- Great multi disciplinary team work
- Interesting and diverse cases
- Great scope to specialise in particular area or work in varied areas
- Increased knowledge of anatomy and physiology
- Ability to develop advanced airway and pain management proficiency
- 10 hour shifts – only have to work 4 days per week
- Worldwide demand for experienced theatre nurses



Further Information

<http://www.westernhealth.org.au/EducationandResearch/Education/Pages/Discovery-Program---Theatre.aspx>



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Any Questions???