



Princess Alexandra Hospital
Intensive Care Unit

Graduate Nurse Program

About the Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

ICU operates 26 beds Monday–Friday and 19 over the weekends. This enables admission of approximately 2500 patients annually.

The unit admits a wide case mix of specialities including:

- Cardiac / Vascular / Respiratory
- ENT & Plastics
- Hepatobiliary / Liver Transplantation
- Upper/Lower Gastrointestinal
- Neurology / Spinal / Trauma Services

We offer

- Strong Education Focus (3 education days over the year)
- Support Post-Graduate studies and Professional Development
- Flexible rostering
- A supportive and friendly environment
- An innovative environment within a recognised Magnet nursing institution
- Research collaboration and opportunities

We look for

- A focus on high quality patient care
- A willingness to contribute to the growth and development of the entire team
- Willingness to undertake ongoing study

All nurses working in the ICU without a critical care qualification are required to undertake the Transition Support Program–Intensive Care.





Transition Program–Intensive Care

The program has been designed to improve the knowledge and skills of Registered Nurses. The program is equivalent to 300 hours of learning; time frame for completion of the program is 12 months.

Using adult learning principles the Transition Support Program builds skills, knowledge, and critical thinking along the continuum from novice to advanced beginner. This is achieved through a phased approach – orientation, initial knowledge and skill development, preceptorship and continuing development.

Content is delivered via 9 key learning areas:

- Time Critical Speciality Modules
- Airway and Oxygenation
- Mechanical Ventilation
- Cardiac Electrophysiology
- Haemodynamic Monitoring
- Fluid dynamics/Renal
- Gastrointestinal / Endocrine
- Neurological Monitoring
- Stress

Program Assessment

The program is assessed both theoretically and clinically. The theoretical assessment consists of two case histories. The clinical assessment involves assessment of clinical competence at the bedside with 2 x 8 hours assessments.

We also offer

- Following the graduate year, you can apply for full time permanent positions (with the option for part-time as negotiated)
- 8 hour shifts for the first 12 months, with the option of 12 hour shifts with

- NUM/Educator approval after completion of graduate year
- Off-line rostered education days (REDs) for all staff–3 per year
- Excellent university links for post graduate critical care study

More information

Visit metrosouth.health.qld.gov.au and search “graduate programs”.

*If you would like further information on the Transition Support Program–Intensive Care please contact the ICU Nurse Educators:
ICU_Clinical_Facilitator@health.qld.gov.au*

