

Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital Perioperative Services

Graduate Nurse Program

Hospital Overview

Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Hospital (QEII) is a medium metropolitan adult facility with 181 inpatient beds. We provide a range of specialties including general medicine, surgical, cardiology, geriatric medicine, intensive and coronary care.

QEII is a *Pathway to Excellence*[®], organisation, which is a credential by the ANCC for hospitals that have created positive work environments where nurses can flourish. Pathway to Excellence Recognition ultimately acknowledges QEII nurses' delivery of high-quality care, support for personal and professional development, the supportive team environment and the commitment and passion to safe person-centred care.

QEII became a Digital Hospital in June 2018.

Our activity

Perioperative suite is staffed for 24-hour coverage that includes:

- Monday-Friday elective surgery and Monday - Sunday/after-hours on-call emergency service coverage;
- Day surgery admissions and recovery/discharges.

Anaesthetic nurse

The anaesthetic nurse cares for the patient when they are at their most vulnerable in the period immediately preceding and following an anaesthetic. The nurse works collaboratively with the anaesthetist and the perioperative team. (*ACORN 15th Edition*)

Circulatory nurse and instrument nurse

Circulatory and instrumental nurses are integral members of the perioperative team caring for the patient within the operating theatre.

The nurses confirm patient ID, ensure valid consent, health status, fasting status, and surgical site.

They ensure all instrumentation and sterile stock required for the case are available in the theatre.

They are responsible for the counting of accountable items, and organising instrumentation in a way that supports the work of the surgeon and remains vigilant throughout the procedure to ensure best practice.

They demonstrate competence in intraoperative management of various procedures and any concerns. (*ACORN 15th Edition*)

Post Anaesthetic Care Nurse (PACU)

The PACU nurse cares for the patient one on one immediately after anaesthesia and surgery. They demonstrate competence in post-operative management of patient airway and post-operative pain and nausea, while providing safe, quality person centred care.

PACU is a high acuity area where nurses are required to have a high level of nursing and technical skills.

Perioperative Transition Support Program (TSP)

Transition Support Program (TSP) is a suite of blended learning programs for registered nurses employed within Queensland Health. The TSP format comprises theoretical learning and clinical practice relevant to a specific area of practice.

Support and opportunities

- Graduate Nurse Educator (NE): A dedicated NE who is responsible for the coordination and management of the QEII Graduate Program.
- Clinical Facilitator (CF): onsite CFs who can assist with transition to nursing culture, guidance or having a friendly chat.
- Preceptorship: allocated preceptor/s to assist you as you settle into your new clinical environment.
- Regular peer meetings with other new graduates. A chance to catch up and learn from your friends by sharing your new graduate experiences.
- Insight Project: participate in quality improvement.

Hospital initiatives

- Pathway to Excellence®
- Planetree
- Commitment to Reconciliation
- Digital Hospital

The benefits for those undertaking a Graduate Program at the QEII:

- A structured graduate nurse program that will assist you to transition from novice graduate nurse to a confident and skilled practitioner.
- The provision of education and support needed to build an enriching and rewarding professional career.
- Joining an organisation that is internationally recognised for nursing excellence and developing leaders of the future.
- A supportive clinical and educational environment that promotes competence and confidence in clinical practice.
- Diverse clinical specialties from which to choose.
- Multiple career development pathways with opportunities to progress and achieve your future nursing career goals.

Graduate placement opportunities

Perioperative Services consists of six interrelated nursing and support service departments, including:

- Elective Surgery Bookings
- Day Surgery Admissions / Recovery
- 6 Bed Holding Bay
- 7 Operating Theatres
- Anaesthetic Care Unit (ACU)
- 14 Bay Post Anaesthetic Care Unit (PACU) including a high dependency bay.

Graduates on the program will rotate through three (3) clinical specialties - ACU, Theatre (instrument and circulating nurse) and PACU.

More information

Visit metrosouth.health.qld.gov.au and search "graduate programs".

