

Fellow in Community Paediatrics/General Paediatrics Barwon Region

Job Description

This paper provides specific information about the Fellow position in the Barwon region and should be read as a supplement to other information about the Victorian Training Program in Community Child Health (CCH).

Overview

The Fellow in Community Child Health and General Paediatrics (FCCH/GP) Barwon Health is a 12 month position that provides an excellent opportunity to develop the varied knowledge and skills required in Community Child Health practice while maintaining and extending your experience in General Paediatrics and Level 2 neonatal care. You will join a team of general paediatricians in a busy regional paediatric unit.

The Fellow will be expected to take part in quality assurance programs and will have the opportunity to design and implement a research project (this may contribute to or be part of a higher degree). You will be well supported in both clinical and research components by the paediatricians in Geelong and will take part in the training program and attend specialist clinics within the Centre for Community Child Health at RCH. As part of the Geelong paediatric team you will share the opportunities for teaching students and junior medical staff and participate in our continuing paediatric education program.

This position is administered by Barwon Health and the terms and conditions are covered in the award with rates of pay commensurate with experience.

The components of the job are outlined in more detail below.

- Research
- Clinical
- Teaching
- Training

Research

You will be expected to design and implement a research project that is manageable within the 12 months position. This may be achieved through participation in the ongoing projects in the region or, alternatively, you may wish to discuss a particular area of interest and undertake a quality assurance project or individual research project.

Current research programs within the Department are

Autism study – Dr Natasha Brown and collaborators
Asthma epidemiology – Dr Peter Vuillermin

Any area of Community Child Health may be considered and discussed with your supervisor.

Supervisor: Dr Christine Sanderson, Dr Peter Vuillermin or nominated paediatrician

Clinical

There are two components to the clinical workload

A. Community Child Health

You are encouraged to explore the wide network of community based services that provide early intervention, therapy options and developmental surveillance for children in the Barwon community. You will have a base in the Specialist Children's Services team (Department of Human Services, Geelong) and will accept referrals for developmental, behavioural and general paediatric consultations directly from the Early Intervention services, Maternal Child Health and from other community based agencies. You will have the opportunity to see and assess children in the community and to discuss your formulation and management plans with your supervisor on a regular basis.

Key agencies that you will meet during your orientation and will interact with are

- Specialist Childrens' Services (DHS)
- Maternal and Child Health nurses (including outreach service)
- Gateways (Autism assessment and early intervention including kindergarten support services)
- SCOPE early intervention specialising in physical disability
- Noah's Ark early intervention services
- Special educational settings – Nelson Park, Barwon Valley
- Child protection unit – DHS
- Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)
- Paediatric Adolescent Support Services (PASS) – a specific counselling service for families and young people with chronic disease

There are also opportunities to be involved in other areas of special interest:

- Young Peoples' Health at Clockwork Youth Health services – this is an ideal opportunity to develop skills in counselling, adolescent gynaecology and mental health issues.
- Indigenous child health in the Barwon Region may be approached through the key liaison workers.
- Refugee Health – a relatively new area in the Barwon region with an outpatient clinic now established. The Diversitat organisation coordinates services for this group of people and links are forming with the broader health community.
- Forensic paediatrics and child abuse – clinical training opportunities are available
- Disordered Eating Service (DES)

Supervisor: Dr Christine Sanderson and others for designated specific interests

B. General paediatrics in the acute setting

Your responsibilities will be similar to the other Registrars working on the paediatric Unit in the acute settings.

The Fellow joins the Paediatric ward round on Monday and Friday mornings for a review of the inpatients in the Special Care nursery and in the Children's ward (Heath Wing 3).

In addition you will be expected to

- Coordinate and participate in the 'Start up' clinic for mothers and babies who have come through the chemical dependency unit clinics (working with the social worker and in liaison with the Child protection unit, Child First team and Outreach maternal child health)
- Cover the Paediatric Registrar on one half day each week
- Take first on-call on one week night each week
- Take first on-call on one weekend in each month though you may choose to 'split' weekends and work on one weekend day in every 2-3 weekends.

Administration tasks include

- Coordination of speakers at Friday morning ward rounds
- Assist the DMD with the Registrar and Fellow roster

Please note the following:

You will have Consultant backup at all times on-call.

The level of cover provided by the Geelong paediatric team is regarded as 'immediate' – that is, available within 10-15 minutes of being called. This has practical implications for the Fellow who may choose to reside within 10-15 minutes of the hospital in order to be at home while on-call overnight. Please note that Barwon Health has not provided accommodation for the Fellow in the past but other inexpensive options may be available.

Supervisor: Dr David Fuller, DMD – Children's services

Teaching

It is anticipated that you will take an active role in teaching on the Paediatric Unit and in the community

- Medical students
- Hospital medical officers
- Nursing education
- PLS and APLS courses are conducted at Barwon Health and you will be able to participate according to your prior level of experience

You may also be invited to speak to various community agencies and/or parent groups.

Training

You are required to attend the training program at RCH and are able to attend specialist clinics at RCH for the purpose of developing experience and to receive supervision.

There is also the opportunity to explore your specific interests and to review your experience and identify training needs. For example, we will encourage you to consider undertaking specific training in child abuse and forensic paediatrics and to attend seminars in developmental and behavioural paediatrics. You should note however that costs for courses and travel will not usually be met by Barwon Health.

Detailed orientation notes and contact details will be available.

Christine Sanderson
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