

# Perioperative Suite Profile



The Perioperative Suite is located on Level 3, East Building. The suite is made up of 14 “*state of the art*” Theatres, a Central Sterilising and Supply Department, Day of Surgery Unit, a Post Anaesthetic Care Unit (PACU) and a 14 bed Surgical Short Stay Unit named “*Possum*”.

Theatres are nominated to specialities however, any procedure can be performed in any theatre with exception of theatre 1 which is limited to endoscopy and haematology.

Theatres have been organised in three clusters:

- High turnover: theatres 1-3
- General: theatres 4-9
- Specialist: theatres 10-14 which includes the Emergency theatre, Cardiac and intra-operative MRI facility which incorporates the Cardiac Catheter Lab and Neurosurgical theatre

Our theatres are fully integrated with a number of features including, pendants, audio visual system, intercom, LED theatre lights and workstations. Procedures performed yearly exceed 20,000, with a month average of 1,800. Patients range in age from newborn premature babies to adolescents. The nursing role combines care of the child and family with the demands of complex procedures and technology.

## NURSING ROLES

Perioperative Nurses from all areas work together to ensure optimal care is delivered, in a child-focused and family friendly environment. The Perioperative Suite is a large area staffed by a multidisciplinary team consisting of Surgeons, Anaesthetists, Nurses, Anaesthetic Technologists, Theatre Technicians and other healthcare professionals who are all committed to caring for our patients.

**Day Surgery** Nurses provide a safe, positive experience of the highest quality care to all children and their families. This is achieved by actively involving the patients and their families and /or carers. The Nurses in this area admit and assess the child in preparation for surgery in the preoperative hold area.

**Theatre** Nurses are the advocate for the child while they are anaesthetised and separated from their parents and family therefore, at their most vulnerable. The operating theatres give Nurses a wide exposure to the patient's journey and produces Nurses with a high level of confidence and competence.

**PACU** Nurses provide close monitoring and nursing care to all patients who have undergone an anaesthetic. It is essential for Recovery Nurses to have in-depth knowledge of pre, intra and postoperative care to provide safe and effective outcome. Almost all patients go to Recovery for immediate post anaesthetic care; once stable they are transferred to Day Surgery and discharged home. Patients requiring overnight admission are transferred from Recovery to Possum or the appropriate inpatient ward.

**Surgical Short Stay Unit “Possum”** nurses provide high quality family centred care to all elective and emergency surgical patients. The average length of stay is one to two nights and the unit provides for a number of specialities including general surgery, urology, ENT, plastics, orthopaedics, ophthalmology, cardiology, dental and gynaecology.

Graduate Nurses are supported through an individualised orientation and training program by our team of Clinical Educators, Clinical Support Nurses, Preceptors and Mentors. Familiarisation and supernumerary time is allocated to all new Nurses.

## PROGRAMS

- The Graduate Nurse Program is a specialised program involving two placements within the Perioperative Suite. All Graduate Nurses will spend time in Theatre as well as one of the other areas
- Undergraduate Nurse Program: 4- 6 week clinical experience placements
- Post Graduate Courses: we support a variety of full-time and part-time courses delivered by national and state training organisations
- Career Advancement Year (CAY) Program: a 12 month program with two clinical placements, each 6 months in duration.

## CONTACTS

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