

# Centre for Education and Practice Development



## Cardiac Nursing Specialist Year



### Geelong Hospital

As the acute care facility of Barwon Health, Geelong Hospital is the major provider of health services to the 350,000 people of Greater Geelong, and the 500,000 people of the Barwon South-Western region. The hospital has 369 acute beds and treated over 66,000 patients over the 2008-09 year.

The Geelong Hospital is classified as a level 4 Cardiac Service, providing an Emergency Department, six acute cardiac beds, 10 cardiothoracic stepdown beds, a 26 bed cardiac ward, and two cardiac catheter laboratories.

Cardiac nurses working in this area have the opportunity to care for individuals requiring interventional or diagnostic cardiology, cardiac medical intervention, as well as pre and post operative cardiac surgery.

### Aims of the Cardiac Services Specialist Year

1. To transfer existing theoretical and clinical knowledge into providing quality patient care in the Cardiac Services Department.
2. To develop knowledge and skills necessary to achieve a competent level in cardiac nursing practice.
3. To explore the role of the cardiac nurse and reflect upon your own nursing practice.
4. To make an informed decision on the possibility of cardiac nursing as a career direction.
5. To provide an articulated pathway to postgraduate studies with tertiary credits.

### ENQUIRIES

Sue Smith  
Clinical Nurse Educator - Cardiac Services  
(03) 5226 7394  
sues@barwonhealth.org.au

Monica Miller  
Nurse Unit Manager/Team Leader  
Cardiac Services  
(03) 5226 7833

Michelle Preusker  
Nurse Unit Manager  
Cardiac Services  
(03) 5226 7833

Pauline Smyth  
Team Leader  
Cardiac Services  
(03) 5226 7578

**Duration of program: 52 weeks**  
**Positions available: 4**

### PROGRAM DESIGN

#### Clinical

- Setting clinical objectives
- Clinical assessments related to specific clinical hurdles
- Periodic clinical appraisals

#### Theoretical

Theoretical assessments comprise 50% of the program and includes:

- Assignment (2000 words) 40%
- Presentation (at study day) 10%
- Attendance at two relevant educational activities

In conjunction with the clinical program, successful participants may apply for advanced standing towards tertiary study.

### CLINICAL PLACEMENTS

Positions are available in the Cardiac Ward with rotation through Cardiothoracic Stepdown and Cardiac Catheter Laboratory

### CLINICAL SUPERVISION

Preceptors, senior nursing staff, and the clinical nurse educator will be the resource staff providing ongoing support.

### APPLICATION PREREQUISITES

- Registered Nurse Division 1
- Holds a current Victorian Practicing Certificate
- Minimum of 12 months recent post

registration acute general nursing experience or similar

- A demonstrated interest in cardiac nursing
- Enthusiasm to learn

### APPLICATIONS

Applications should include:

- Letter of application
- Curriculum Vitae

Applications are to be submitted via the website: [www.barwonhealth.org.au](http://www.barwonhealth.org.au)

**Closing date: 13 November 2009**

Interview will be conducted as part of the selection process