Nambour General Hospital enhances emergency services

Through simulations of life-saving medical treatments for stabbing, blunt trauma and burns, doctors and nurses at Nambour General Hospital’s emergency department will continue to enhance their emergency medicine training this month.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) has hosted the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine’s national program, Emergency Medicine Education and Training (EMET), at Nambour General Hospital since 2012.

EMET provides emergency medicine training for doctors and nurses working in emergency departments across rural and regional Australia, and has helped to attract and retain Senior House Officers to regional areas in record numbers.

Nambour General Hospital’s Emergency Department (ED) Director, Dr Michael Natale said SCHHS operated three emergency departments (at Nambour General Hospital, Caloundra Health Service and Gympie Hospital), open 24 hours, seven days a week.

“Emergency physicians need to be both generalists across many areas but also possess highly specialist skills in resuscitation and diagnosis; they need to have a wide range of procedural and technical skills,” Dr Natale said.

“Our highly skilled team of doctors and nurses is committed to continuous improvement, to ensure we provide the very best level of care for our patients, and the EMET program delivers excellent hands-on training,” he said.

Emergency consultant Dr Christopher Wignall helps run the state of the art simulation training every week in the hospital’s simulation centre, with doctors from Nambour and surrounding hospitals.

“Emergency medicine is both an incredibly demanding but greatly rewarding field for staff. It requires decisiveness and teamwork as well as a breadth of knowledge across all facets of medicine,” Dr Wignall said.

“I am passionate about helping emergency doctors and nurses deepen their knowledge of emergency medicine, with practical, hands-on training sessions and simulations,” he said.

Since the national program was launched in 2012, it has provided over 4,200 training sessions, attended by over 32,000 doctors and health workers.

EMET is funded by the federal government and is implemented by the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine.
MEDIA OPPORTUNITY

What: Sit in on the training session on penetrating chest trauma, with emergency consultant Dr Chris Wignall.
When: 10am Thursday, 3 March 2016.
Where: Meet at Nambour General Hospital main foyer.

ENDS

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