Cairns Hospital

Medical Workforce Service
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Hospital facilities

The Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (CHHHS) is responsible for the delivery of Health Services in a geographical area of 141,000 square kilometres ranging from Cairns to Tully in the south, Cow Bay in the north and Croydon in the west. The HHS outer western region encompasses extremely remote communities.

The CHHHS supports a population of 283,197 which is forecast to grow by 9% by 2026, with the highest level of growth occurring within the in the 65 and over age group. Tourism is a key industry and contributes to a relatively high transient population. It is estimated that 9% of the population are Indigenous Australian, compared to 3.5% for Queensland as a whole.

The CHHHS delivers health services across the continuum of care and also provides services to the Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service. Some higher level acute services are provided outside the CHHHS area in Townsville or Brisbane.

Clinical service profile

Cairns Hospital provides community and specialist hospital services for Cairns and its immediate surroundings and is the major referral centre for Tropical North Queensland. Services include all major health specialties (medicine, surgery, women’s health, paediatrics and mental health) and more than 30 sub-specialties. The hospital also is a major provider of outreach specialist services to remote and rural areas, including obstetrics and gynaecology, anaesthetics, orthopaedics, general medicine, renal medicine, diabetes and thoracic medicine.

Cairns Hospital is Australia’s first large-scale regional Digital Hospital, leading the way in health care information and technology. We’re connecting patients, clinicians and health services through fully integrated digital healthcare.
Hospital Services:

24-hour acute care  
Accident and emergency  
Aged care  
Cardiac Services  
Child and youth health  
Gynaecology  
Intensive care  
Medical  
Mental health  
Obstetric  
Oncology  
Peri-operative  
Rehabilitation unit  
Special Care Baby Unit  
Surgical

Allied Health Services

Child development unit  
Clinical measurement services  
Dietetics  
Occupational therapy  
Oral health dental services  
Pharmacy  
Physiotherapy  
Psychology  
Radiographers  
Social work  
Speech Pathology

Outreach Services

Anaesthetics  
Cardiac Outreach including Echo Service  
Dental  
General medicine  
General surgery  
Geriatrics  
Gynaecology  
Mental health  
Obstetric  
Orthopaedic  
Paediatrics  
Thoracic medicine

Clinics Available

Amputee  
Cardiology  
Cystic fibrosis  
Diabetes  
Ear, nose, throat (ENT)  
Emergency medicine  
Endocrinology  
Gastroenterology  
General surgery  
Genetics  
Geriatrics  
Gynaecology  
Haematology  
Infectious diseases  
Intensive care  
Metabolic  
Neurology  
Neurosurgery  
Obstetrics  
Oncology  
Ophthalmology  
Oral surgery  
Orthopaedic oncology  
Orthopaedics  
Paediatric cardiology  
Paediatric dermatology  
Paediatric ophthalmology  
Paediatric surgery  
Paediatrics  
Pathology  
Psychiatry  
Radiation oncology  
Radiology  
Renal medicine  
Renal transplant  
Rheumatology  
Scoliosis  
Sleep clinic  
Thoracic medicine  
Urology  
Vascular surgery

Community Health

Dental  
Hepatitis C  
Sexual health

Specialist Services

Aged care  
Alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) service  
Cardiac Health Team (Heart Failure, Cardiac Rehabilitation)  
Cardiology  
Continence advisory service  
Diabetes  
Emergency medicine  
Endocrinology  
ENT surgery  
Gastroenterology  
General medicine  
General surgery  
Genetic counselling  
Geriatrics  
Gynaecology  
Haematology  
Infectious diseases  
Intensive care  
Medical imaging  
Mental health  
Neonatal  
Neurology  
Obstetrics  
Oncology  
Ophthalmology  
Oral surgery  
Orthopaedics  
Paediatrics  
Pain service  
Pathology  
Plastic corrective surgery  
Psychiatry  
Radiology  
Renal medicine  
Respiratory  
Rheumatology  
Sexual health  
Thoracic medicine  
Urology  
Vascular surgery  
Wound management
RMO education and training opportunities

Education sessions are as follows:
- Grand Rounds / Journal clubs
- Individual unit / department teaching
- ARCS
- Skills Centre
- RMO teaching program (usually skills based)

RANZCP Registrar Training Program
- Part of QRTP
- 19 accredited RANZCP Registrar Training positions (basic and advanced training available)
  - 8 Adult General
  - 2 Consultation Liaison
  - 3 Child & Youth
  - 1 Psychiatry of Old Age
  - 1 Forensic position
  - 3 Senior Positions in Extreme Outreach
  - 0.5 Medical Education Registrar position
  - 0.5 Alcohol, Tobacco and other substances
- Telemed facilities to access Brisbane lecture program
- All terms Rural Training Accredited
- Locally run educational program
- Journal Club, Case Presentation and Tutorial Sessions
- Cairns Base Hospital Library facilities

For information on Psychiatry training in Cairns, please contact;
Dr Mridula Kayal - Chief Training Supervisor
Phone: 0404 641 772
Email: mridula.kayal@health.qld.gov.au

ICU Registrar Positions
Cairns ICU is a 16-bed, level III, general ICU which admits a diverse case-mix of both adult and paediatric patients. The majority of the 1200+ annual admissions are emergencies (>80%), with a high level of acuity and complexity. The unit case-mix is diverse, being substantially compromised of tropical infectious diseases, trauma and complex medical and surgical conditions. With a catchment area including Cape York and the Torres Strait, a significant proportion of the patients are Indigenous and are often from remote communities.

Cairns ICU has CICM accreditation as a C12 unit (for pre-2014 trainees) and has unlimited general and paediatric (P12) accreditation for post-2014 trainees. The unit also provides rotations to Senior House Officers (SHO) as part of the Cairns Hospital Critical Care SHO year and is accredited for ANZCA and ACEM trainees.

There is a dedicated registrar education program, with protected ICU registrar teaching time, as well as weekly primary examination tutorial. Advanced trainees have access to Fellowship Exam preparation, including regular hot cases conducted by FCICM specialists in the unit. An Echo training program is being established by College accredited assessors.

There is a close relationship with the infectious diseases unit, with regular microbiological ward rounds and there is a weekly radiology teaching program. Weekly SIM training with mini-sims for critical care occurs in the dedicated ICU simulation and training room.
The unit is dynamic and evolving, with an expanding research program. Great opportunities exist for registrars to undertake intensive care training, while managing unique cases in an interesting, supportive tropical intensive care environment.

For information on ICU training in Cairns, please contact;
Dr Catherine Tacon – ICU Specialist
Phone: 07 4226 6990
Email: catherine.tacon@health.qld.gov.au
More information is available at: icuairns.org

Advanced Rural Skills Posts
(These positions will be allocated to Cairns by the QRGP)
*Anaesthetics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Surgery, Emergency Medicine*

Employment conditions

- Award conditions apply - Medical Officers (Queensland Health) Award - State 2015 (PDF, 361kB) in conjunction with Medical Officer (Queensland Health) Certified Agreement (No.4) 2015 (MOCA 4)

Available positions

*These numbers are subject to change, and applicants should always discuss employment opportunities with your preferred hospitals before submitting your application.*

Senior Medical staff
- 1 Executive Director of Medical Services
- 1 Service Director of Medical Services
- 10 Clinical Directors
- 225 Specialists
- 32 Visiting Medical Specialists

Fellows
Clinical Provisional Fellows
- Anaesthetics (2), Intensive Care (1)

Registrars & Principal House Officers
Anaesthetics (17)
ICU (11)
Emergency Medicine (24)
Medical Administration (1)
Medical Education (0.5)
Internal Medicine (66.5)
- Chief Medical Registrar
- Cardiology
- Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology
- General Medicine
- Haematology
- Oncology
- Infectious Diseases
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Rheumatology & Immunology
- Respiratory
- Geriatrics
- Palliative Care
- Rehabilitation
- Outreach Medicine
- Obstetric Medicine

Obstetrics and Gynaecology (11)
Paediatrics (9)
Psychiatry (26)

Rural
- Mareeba (5.6)
- Atherton (4)
- Innisfail (1)
- Mossman (1)

Surgery
- ENT (2)
- General Surgery (12)
- Orthopaedics (11)
- Ophthalmology (2)
- Plastic Surgery/Maxillofacial Surgery (2)
- Urology (3)

Sexual Health (1)

**Junior and Senior House officers (137)**

Full range of specialties including core Rural Health trainees, RACGP training posts and relieving Resident Medical Officers.

**Current JHO/SHO Terms Available**
- Anaesthetics (only available for Critical Care Stream)
- ICU
- Paediatrics
- Medicine Specialties
  - Cardiology
  - Endocrinology
  - Gastroenterology
  - Haematology
  - Oncology
  - Infectious diseases
  - Renal
  - Thoracic medicine
  - Palliative Care
  - Medical Assessment Unit
- Surgical Specialties
  - Vascular Surgery
  - General Surgery
  - Urology
  - Plastic Surgery
  - Maxillofacial Surgery
  - ENT
  - Ophthalmology
  - Surgical Relief
- Psychiatry
- Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- Orthopaedics
- Emergency Medicine
• Rural Rotations
• **Critical Care Stream** (PGY3+ only, role description available upon request)

**Community and lifestyle**

**The People / Socio Demographics**
Cairns is home to approximately 165,000 people from diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. This adds to the cosmopolitan feel of the place. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, as well as South Pacific Islanders maintain strong links to the area. Most denominations are catered for. All major service organisations are active in Cairns. There is also a Royal Flying Doctor base located here.

**Real Estate and Accommodation**
The majority of the area’s housing is privately owned. The area is well served for rental accommodation. The council is encouraging unit, villa and apartment-style development, especially in the Central Business District.

**Places of Interest**
The historic Botanical Gardens and The Esplanade. Bird watching along the foreshore, the scenic Kuranda area, fishing on the reef, the weekend markets with their produce and crafts. White water rafting and the Barron Gorge. The many parks and gardens as well as the incomparable reef make Cairns a great place to explore.

http://www.icucairns.org/