

Torres and Cape

Hospital and Health Service



Medical Officer opportunities

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners / Custodians, past and present, within the lands in which we work.

CAPE YORK

Ayabadhu, Alngith, Anathangayth, Anggamudi, Apalech, Binthi, Burunga, Dingaal, Girramay, Gulaal, Gugu Muminh, Guugu-Yimidhirr, Kaantju, Koko-bera, Kokomini, Kuku Thaypan, Kuku Yalanji, Kunjen/Olkol, Kuuku – Yani, Lama Lama, Mpalitjanh, Munghan, Ngaatha, Ngayimburr, Ngurrumungu, Nugal, Oolkoloo, Oompala, Peppan, Puutch, Sara, Teppathiggi, Thaayorre, Thanakwithi, Thiitharr, Thuubi, Tjungundji, Uutaalnganu, Wanam, Warrangku, Wathayn, Waya, Wik, Wik Mungkan, Wimarangga, Winchanam, Wuthathi and Yupungathi.

NORTHERN PENINSULA AREA

Atambaya, Gudang, Yadhaykenu, Angkamuthi, Wuthathi.

TORRES STRAIT ISLANDS

The five tribal nations of the Torres Strait Islands:

The Kaiwalagal

The Maluilgal

The Gudamaluilgal

The Meriam

The Kulkalgal Nations.

RECOGNITION OF AUSTRALIAN SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS

Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service formally recognises the Australian South Sea Islanders as a distinct cultural group within our geographical boundaries. Torres and Cape HHS is committed to fulfilling the Queensland Government Recognition Statement for Australian South Sea Islander Community to ensure that present and future generations of Australian South Sea Islanders have equality of opportunity to participate in and contribute to the economic, social, political and cultural life of the State.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are respectfully advised that this publication/production may contain the words, voices, names, images and/or descriptions of people who have passed away.



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Have you ever thought of a ‘Tropical medical experience’?

Working in the Torres Strait Islands, Northern Peninsula Area and Cape York gives Medical Officers the opportunity to enjoy a relaxed lifestyle in some of the most beautiful natural environments in Australia.

The clinical challenges in our region are both exciting and rewarding. Medical Officers have the opportunity to practice across the spectrum of health services from primary care to acute care. You may be managing communicable and tropical diseases that are rare or unheard of elsewhere in Australia. You may be the lead Medical Officer in an acute injury or illness requiring remote diagnosis, treatment and evacuation. You will also have a frontline role in helping to close the gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health status.

Working within small teams, you will be required to hone your clinical judgement and clinical skill sets. Often you will be working independently with support as required from a network of physicians from within Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service (Torres and Cape HHS) and our partner organisations such as the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (CHHS).



About two-thirds of our residents are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent. Staff have the benefit of working closely with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers, and these working relationships help clinicians to gain an insight into the richly layered and varied cultures unique to each community.

This helps us deliver health services that are sensitive to the needs of our patients and culturally appropriate

Our Medical Officers enjoy a strong profile within their communities. Through these connections, you can have the ability to become involved within the community and have influence in the community.

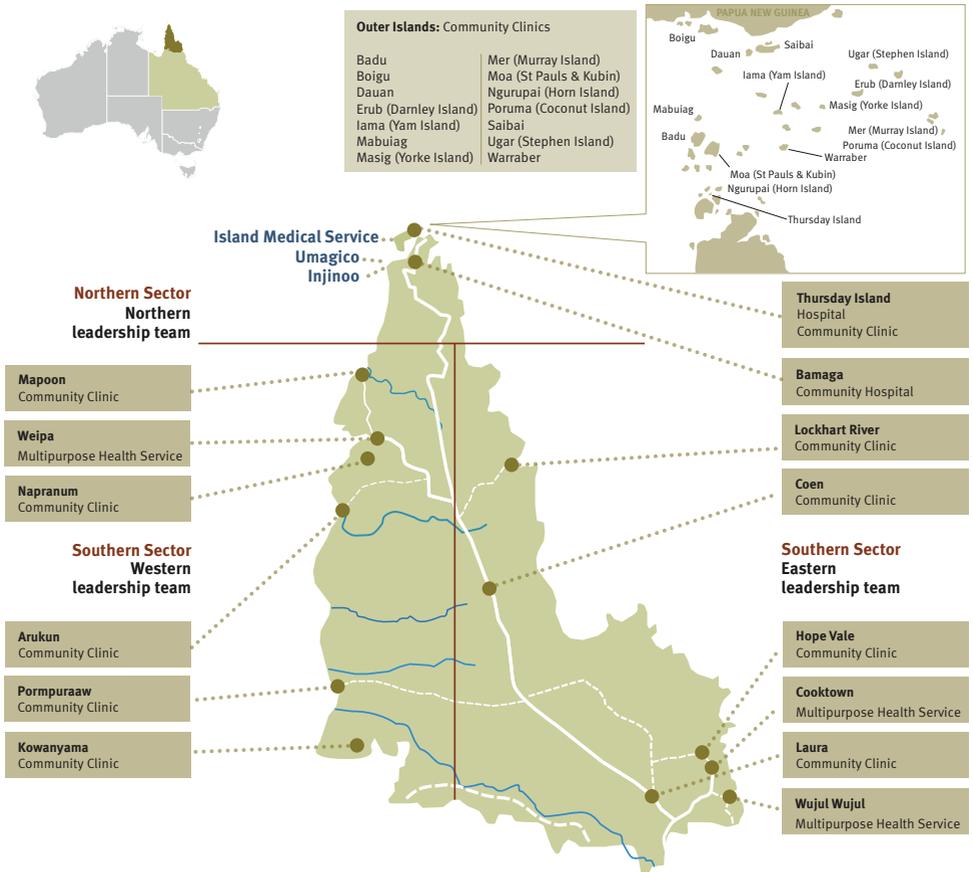
The medical leadership team in Torres and Cape HHS is made up of an executive clinical lead as well as a medical director at each of the three hubs: Northern (Thursday Island), Western (Weipa) and Eastern (Cooktown).

Our doctors are mostly based in small hospitals with the social and community benefits of working in rural and remote towns, including opportunity to visit and practice in primary health care centres in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

In Torres and Cape HHS, we have a keen focus on education. Many of our senior medical staff are examiners and trainers in the Rural Generalist Training Pathway. Staff have the opportunity to participate in quality improvement in the health care setting and in research activities.



Location



Contact us:

Medical Recruitment

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t. 07 4226 5557

e. TCHHS-MedicalRecruitment@health.qld.gov.au

Our profile

- Torres Strait Islands, Northern Peninsula Area and Cape York are among the most spectacular and culturally important tourism regions in Queensland.
- Awe-inspiring landscapes and fair dinkum friendly locals, it's a 'big country' waiting to be explored. On or off the beaten track, all roads and boat rides lead to unexpected adventures and unforgettable experiences.

Interesting facts:

Torres and Cape HHS has approximately **1000** employees



Torres and Cape HHS provides health care to a resident population of over 26,000

67% 

identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples

Telehealth services are available throughout the HHS



Giving residents access to specialist services without needing to leave the community



The northern boundary of Torres and Cape HHS is adjacent to Papua New Guinea

We are the **only** HHS that borders another country

Torres and Cape HHS is an independent statutory body governed by a single Board.



Managed from hubs in Weipa, Cooktown, Cairns and Thursday Island



The Torres and Cape HHS is one of Australia's largest providers of health services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

Services are provided across **35** facilities



4 hospitals and 31 primary and community health services

We are the most northerly of Queensland's Hospital and Health Services and cover **more than**

158,000km²

across 13 local government areas

Facility and local information

Thursday Island Hospital

Thursday Island Hospital is the referral hospital for 16 Primary Health Care Centres in the Torres Strait Islands.

Medical Practitioners at Thursday Island, provide health services from either the Thursday Island Hospital, Thursday Island Community Wellness Centre or the Thursday Island Primary Health Care Centre.

The Thursday Island Hospital has 26 general/medical beds and 6 maternity beds providing health services to the residents of Thursday Island as well as the outer islands of the Torres Strait, and residents of the NPA. Services provided by the hospital include, emergency, general medicine and maternity services. Specialist services include endocrinology, obstetrics, paediatric medicine, adult mental health and general surgery. Visiting specialists providing clinics include general physician, ophthalmologist, respiratory physician, gynaecologist, general surgeon, vascular surgeon, psychiatrist and a paediatrician. Allied health services available include podiatry, pharmacy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and radiography.

The Thursday Island Primary Health Care Centre and Thursday Island Community Wellness Centre provide ambulatory and primary health services including general practice medicine, assisted renal dialysis, child health, oral health, adult mental health, drug and alcohol, men's and women's health, HIV/AIDS services, palliative care, home care, rehabilitation, infectious diseases, diabetes and nutrition, environmental health, hearing health, health promotion and healthy aging. Clinics for child health, diabetes and hearing are also available. Allied health services include podiatry, social work and oral health.



Thursday Island

Location: 804km north of Cairns, 35km north west of Cape York

Living on Thursday Island

Thursday Island is the main hub of the Torres Strait; a colourful island bliss where time really can seem to stand still. Flying just 2.5 hours from Cairns to Horn Island, a short ferry will complete your journey to Thursday Island.

Thursday Island has a population of 2,938 people, of which 68.6% are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people (2016 ABS Census: Thursday Island).

The traditional name for Thursday Island is 'Waibene', meaning 'dry place' however it is locally known as 'TI'. Thursday Island was traditionally chosen as the main island from back in the 1870's when there was a boom in the fishery industry for *beche-de-mer* (sea cucumber), mother-of-pearl and trochus shells; its sheltered bay made it more suited to offloading the luggers. You'll find many markers around town illustrating the rich history of the region; Thursday Island was important to Australia as a defence centre against a threatening invasion. Cannons and some fortifications on Battery Point remain and there are many tours that can be taken to learn about this period. It became the administration hub for the Torres Strait in 1877 when the government settlement at Somerset, Cape York was moved here.



Thursday Island is a colourful island paradise approximately 3.5 km² in size and can be walked around of an afternoon. This unique tropical region is home to the Indigenous Torres Strait Islanders, where the culture is rich with beautiful heritage listed buildings, teeming with strong history. The Indigenous arts and crafts industry is strong and the local lifestyle has grown from the sea and its wealth of wildlife.

Bamaga Hospital

Bamaga Hospital offers acute, general and 24-hour cover services as well as outpatient services and emergency care.

Specialist services include: general medicine, maternity, child health, respiratory health, family support and quality lifestyle programs.

Visiting specialists services include: obstetrician/gynaecologist, physician, chest physician, paediatrician, ophthalmologist and diabetes. Allied health services include radiography, pharmacy and podiatry.



Bamaga

Location: *850km north of Cairns; 25km south of Thursday Island*

Living in Bamaga

Bamaga is considered the unofficial capital of the Northern Peninsula Area (NPA) which contains a total of 5 communities. With their rich and diverse landscape from rainforests teeming with wildlife from rivers and estuaries home to crocodiles and fish to the beautiful beaches stretching as far as the eye can see, there is certainly something for everyone in the NPA.

Bamaga has a population of 1,164 people, of which 82.4% are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people (*2016 ABS Census: Bamaga*).

With the beautiful Jardine River National Park, Bamaga is known for its 4WD adventures along the Old Telegraph Track. Home to the historical sites of Somerset and WW2 relics, camping experiences and sport fishing at its finest, Bamaga is the gateway to the Torres Strait Islands as visitors seek the northern most tip of the Australian continent (*Pajinka*). The natural beauty and cultural heritage make the region a jewel in Australia's crown.



A ferry runs between Bamaga and Horn Island and onto Thursday Island timed to connect with flight arrivals and departures from Horn Island airport. Qantas Link flies daily from Cairns to Horn Island. SkyTrans conducts return flights between Cairns and Bamaga, and Cairns and Horn Island. Rex Airlines flies from Cairns to Bamaga.

Badu Island Primary Health Care Centre

As the centre of the near western Torres Strait cluster of health clinics, the Badu Island Primary Health Care Centre is a busy practice.

It is managed by a small primary health care team consisting of clinical nurse consultants, generalist health practitioner, senior health workers and ancillary staff. A doctor and coordinator are based at Badu and service Moa, St Paul's and Kubin. Staff members are on call for after-hours emergencies.

The health centre offers a limited range of primary health and emergency care services, including chronic disease, maternal and child care, lifestyle and emotional well-being, environmental health and mental health.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service provides retrieval services throughout the Torres Straits.



Badu Island

Location: *854km north west of Cairns, 52km north of Thursday Island, 99km south west of Papua New Guinea*

Living in Badu

Badu Island is in the Near Western Cluster of the Torres Strait Islands. During the 1870's Pearlers established bases on Badu Island, and the first missionaries arrived in the 1880s. The shell industry peaked in the late 1950s, at which time the Badu fleet of 13 boats employed a workforce of 200 Badu Islander men and men from other islands.

Badu Island has a population of 813 people, of which 86.3% are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people (*2016 ABS Census: Badu Island*).

There are two distinct seasons in Torres Strait: Wet and Dry. The Wet season extends from December to April, while the Dry season begins in May and finishes around November. The Wet season is punctuated by monsoonal rainfall, making Badu Island beautifully green. The Dry season is classified by sunny days, blue skies, and sea breezes. Very little rain falls at this time of year, and while the rest of Australia suffers a frost-bitten existence, the Torres Strait remains wonderfully warm with maximum temperatures in the ‘winter’ seasons reaching 30 degrees.



The Island of Origin Rugby League Tournament is held on Badu each year. Teams from across the Torres Strait compete in the series, which is deemed as the Torres Strait’s most popular sporting event.

For residents of Badu, SkyTrans has flights between Badu and Horn Island and are timed to connect with flight arrivals and departures from Horn Island airport.

Cooktown Multipurpose Health Service

Cooktown Multipurpose Health Service (MPHS) is a 24-hour facility which provides emergency, acute and residential aged care.

The Cooktown MPHS incorporates a 16 bed acute hospital, 11 bed aged care unit, community health, integrated mental health/alcohol and other drugs services (AODS) unit and a satellite dialysis unit.

Services include accident and emergency, radiology, sonography, outpatient services, acute inpatient care, residential aged care, mental health and AODS, social work, flexible aged care services and primary health care services, including diabetes education, dental services, child health and physiotherapy.

Outreach services of orthopaedics, obstetrics and gynaecology, thoracic medicine and paediatrics are also provided. The MPHS also provides outreach services to Wujal Wujal, Hope Vale and Laura.

In 2014 a low risk birthing service was re-commenced at Cooktown MPHS for women from the broader Cooktown region.



Cooktown

Location: 328km north of Cairns

Living in Cooktown

Cooktown is a relaxed seaside town in Far North Queensland that is surrounded by National Parks and World Heritage listed rainforests. The town is named after Captain James Cook who beached his damaged vessel, the Endeavour, on the site in 1770 to conduct repairs. Today's industries of tourism, and agriculture provide Cooktown's residents with a more peaceful and laid-back lifestyle.

Fishing in Cooktown is world-renowned with the Endeavour River and offshore reefs. Cooktown has a population of 2,631 people, of which 14.5% are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people (2016 ABS Census: Cooktown).



Cooktown is the closest town to the Great Barrier Reef which lies only 10 km offshore. Fishing is a favourite pastime of many locals whether it be to the reef, the local rivers and tributaries or nearby Lakefield National Park. The region is also home to saltwater crocodiles. Visitors should observe the crocodile signs around the rivers, creeks and lagoons in the area. Cooktown enjoys a mild tropical climate with the wet season typically running from Jan-Mar and average temperatures of 27 degrees year-round.

Hinterland Aviation offer three or more return flights between Cairns and Cooktown on weekdays and daily return flights on weekends. There are bus services that run daily from Cairns to Cooktown and a fully sealed bitumen highway for car/personal transport means.

Weipa Integrated Health Service

Weipa Integrated Health Service facility provides 24-hour inpatient, outpatient, residential aged care, emergency and primary health care services.

The Weipa Hospital is a 13 bed acute and 10 aged care facility providing outpatient, medical/surgical, inpatient, casualty, x-ray and palliative care services to Weipa and the surrounding communities.

Visiting specialist services include endoscopy, colonoscopy, women's health, ophthalmology, mental health, paediatrics, optometry and respiratory medicine.

Clinics available include child health, immunisation, antenatal, women's health, mental health, sexual health, general medicine, dental, nutritional and diabetes education and podiatry. Other services available are antenatal classes, access to an Indigenous Liaison Officer and physiotherapy.



Weipa

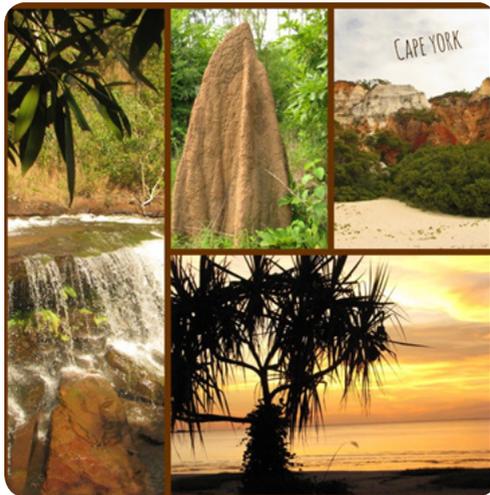
Location: *804km north west of Cairns*

Living in Weipa

Weipa is a mining town on the shores of the Gulf of Carpentaria in Far North Queensland. When the world's richest bauxite deposit was discovered in 1955, the town was built to house Rio Tinto Alcan's bauxite mine and the mine workers. Today, the community has grown to support significant tourist, cattle and fishing industries. Weipa township has a population of 3,899 people, of which 19.5% are Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people (*2016 ABS Census: Weipa*).

With its pristine beaches, secluded waterholes and untouched countryside, Weipa is an ideal home for the outdoor enthusiast. However, some of the locals include crocodiles, jellyfish, sea snakes and sharks! Lake Patricia or Lake McLeod provide scenic surrounds.

Weipa residents have the option of flying Qantas Link between Weipa and Cairns with twice daily flights on most days of the week. SkyTrans offer daily flights across Cape York connecting most communities (Aurukun, Kowanyama, Pormpuraaw, Lockhart River, and Coen) with Weipa and Cairns as well as up to Bamaga and Horn Island.



Cultural Practice program

All of our staff are required to complete an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Program. This training and awareness session gives staff an increased understanding of the links between health and culture. It aims to develop the cultural skills of all staff, recognising that every person across Queensland Health plays a role in improving health outcomes for and with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



TCHHS strives to ensure our education, policies, planning and practices are responsive to the cultural needs specific to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Testimonials -

Living on Thursday Island

Dr Marlow Coates, Northern Director, Medical Services has become a ‘Jack of All Trades’ thanks to his placement at Thursday Island Hospital.



Dr Coates moved to the Island as part of his GP training with James Cook University’s Generalist Medical Training program.

“It’s your responsibility to deal with patient stabilisation, workup, management, ward care and discharge planning and then follow-up after discharge in the community and ongoing healthcare. It’s wonderful to be involved at every level.”

Dr Coates grew up in Mackay, and said he thinks his regional upbringing sparked his interest in rural and remote medical practice.

“I’m not a city boy, and remote doctors are GP ‘Jack of all trades’ who still get to practice a great breadth of medicine.”

Dr Coates said he will continue to learn new skills and strives to be the best rural and remote doctor that he can be, by continuing to give back to the Thursday Island community.

“The training has been fantastic and continues still. Working remotely is complex and often difficult, but very rewarding. The skills required rurally are broad and there’s always something new to learn whether it be office-based, procedural, cultural, or logistical.”

Dr Tony Brown, Executive Director of Medical Services has been working from Thursday Island since 2016.

“I first travelled to Thursday Island in 2014 and was really taken with the uniqueness and complexities of health in the region. There’s high acuity, a big range of diseases, and you have the added layers of Indigenous health issues.

I originally visited the region as a Tropical Medical Training accreditor and felt that if I made a long-term commitment of at least five years then I could really make a difference and improve systems. I’ve been with the Health Service based on Thursday Island for three years now and I’m really impressed by the team of doctors up here. In the north we have one hospital, seventeen primary health care centres on the islands and five on the mainland.



The doctors have an excellent spread of skills and competence. They are all very hard working and committed to the communities. The whole team functions at the highest level. It’s a GP-led service and we do all our own retrievals and have to manage some very high-risk patients.

We’re moving towards a bigger focus on primary health care, chronic disease management and preventative care. Some of the new doctors in Bamaga on the mainland (one hour boat trip away) are doing some amazing work transforming the GP services for the five Northern Peninsula Area communities. They are improving attendances, follow up care and culturally appropriate care. It’s inspirational what can be achieved.

I love living up here and enjoy mountain biking. If you get permission you can go over to some of the other islands. I mountain bike on Horn Island, Prince of Wales Island and Thursday Island. I’ve worked all over Australia and have experienced many different remote communities but have to say that the Torres Strait Islander people have been incredibly friendly and welcoming. We like being included in the community and have been invited to a couple of tombstone openings and have an active social life. We live next door to all our colleagues and I find that what happens socially impacts what happens medically and as a result we are a very close team.”

Living in Cooktown

Dr Ebonney van der Meer, GP registrar is looking forward to working with the community to build and expand accessible quality mental health and addiction care.



“I see a broad range of presentations - anything from acute emergencies to kids and adolescents, aged care, chronic disease, indigenous health, travellers, women’s health, mental health, addiction and everything in between. I have really enjoyed the opportunities in this kind of primary care practice that is focused on the whole person and the social determinants of health, particularly in relation to prevention and health promotion.”

It is still early days but I am working towards building strong relationships with local community and tertiary mental health and addictions services, government and non-government service providers and community organisations and am so fortunate to have been welcomed with open arms. I am really looking forward to working with the community to build and expand accessible quality mental health and addiction care to best meet need in the years to come.

As a country girl from Kingaroy, I couldn’t think of a better job than that of a Rural Generalist. For our family, the move to Cooktown has been even better than we had hoped. The locals have been really welcoming and even more-so when they realise you want to stay! My husband, daughter and I have been busily exploring the beaches and surrounding bushlands at every chance - the idyllic fishing, camping, four-wheel driving, swimming, hiking and exploring opportunities are seemingly endless. Without the distractions and traffic of the city we have found our pace has slowed significantly, we have much more quality time with each other immersed in nature and the outdoors. We are making plans to put down roots here and couldn’t think of a better place to be.”

Living and working in the Torres Straits

Dr Ineke Wever, Senior Medical Officer has been working from Thursday Island since 2018.

“Travelling out to Mer Island for fortnightly clinics over the water watching dugongs and their calves, whales, dolphins and turtles from the helicopter – what a way to start a clinic.



Health Worker, Andrew pictured showing me the fish traps

The first clinic I did on Mer Island I was taken to the lookout to see the fish traps. This is the island where native title was first proven in the High Court in the Mabo vs. Queensland case of 1992.

Learning from the plaintiff's families about the history of this landmark case and being able to work on this island is a truly exceptional experience. The Torres Strait has a rich history which informs healthcare provision – listening to patients and their families about their own stories has been a privilege and I would recommend it to anyone looking to understand Australia's Indigenous history further.

I completed my Advanced Skill in Indigenous Health as my FRACGP and practice as a Rural Generalist with some extra skills in providing CBT, medical terminations, HIV s100 and Hep B s100 specialised medications in addition to the broad scope of general practice. Rural Generalists who are skilled in primary preventative care are valued in the Torres Strait – we are seeing the shift towards being able to prevent pre-diabetes becoming diabetes, supporting and engaging community with their fitness program and maintaining wellness into old age to close the gap.



There's enough emergency on call work at the hospital to keep your skills sharp but if the slow burn of good quality primary care is your jam – join the team in the Torres!”

Living on Badu Island

Dr Sara van Tinteren, Senior Medical Officer has been living and working on Badu Island since 2016.

“I’ve been working as a full time GP on Badu Island for over 3 years and thoroughly enjoy it. After working in cities and the suburbs for most of my career, the variety of rural and remote work is stimulating, challenging, exhilarating and never dull.”



You get to work with a dedicated team, mix with local people and share their unique culture. Then you get to watch the brilliant sunsets and dine on freshly caught fish and crayfish. What’s not to like?”

Living in the Western Cape

Dr Alex Dunn, former Western Director of Medical Services talks about working and living in Weipa and on Cape York from 2009 to 2017.

“Like many people in Weipa, it was the work that initially brought my wife and I to the region, but it was the community that kept us here. In many ways, it captures the ‘quintessential’ Australia – a remote rugged frontier town with the characters to match. The medicine at Weipa fits well and truly into the rural generalist sphere.

The Senior Medical Officer role services the Weipa, Napranum and Mapoon communities.

The medicine encompasses primary care both in the local practice and surrounding Indigenous communities, as well as hospital based emergency, procedural and inpatient care. The community itself is diverse, vibrant and young, and more than 50% of our population is Indigenous.

There is a broad range of diseases encountered, and our isolation means that you really have to rely on your clinical acumen to guide your management. The work is undoubtedly challenging, but extremely rewarding.

There is a passionate, professional and engaged team in the health service. This applies across the board to the medical, nursing, allied health and administrative team. Everyone is committed to delivering the highest standard of care possible to our patients.

The medical team consists of five Senior Medical Officers and two Resident Medical Officers, with regular medical students rotating from around the state. The students are tasked with the daily coffee order. It forms an integral part of their orientation and assessment.

The isolation brings with it a degree of resilience and identity, with the frontier element of Weipa lending itself to a sense of adventure. Weekends are dominated by camping, fishing and outdoor pursuits, with many different spots to pitch up a tent.



There is also stunning wildlife in the area, with species that are only unique to this part of the world. Only a few of them will try to kill you. It is worth getting a bit of local knowledge about which ones these are.



The town also has much in the way of organised sport, including running, netball, football, cricket, squash, swimming and basketball. The standard is variable but the commitment of all involved is first rate. Be warned, no matter what you do - you will sweat more than you ever thought humanly possible.

Part of the charm of Weipa stems from the fact that most people have been ‘new’ here before. People are welcoming. We thought we would come for two years and stayed for seven. My wife and I have two young girls, and we could not ask for a better place to raise them.

You just have to say yes to whatever is on offer, and be prepared to step out of your comfort zone, both professionally and personally. If you are up for a challenge and want to make a difference, Weipa may be the place for you.”

Remuneration packages

Structure (mixture of full time and part time Medical Officers)

Below are the potential medical positions available for recruitment in the TCHHS

Medical Executive and Specialist Outreach

- 1 x Executive Director Medical Services (based in Thursday Island)
- 1 x Community Pediatrician (based in Cairns)
- 1 x Physician - Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Physician (based in Cairns)
- 1 x Physician - Infectious Diseases (based in Townsville)

NORTHERN SECTOR

- 1 x Northern Director, Medical Services (based in Thursday Island)

Thursday Island Hospital

- 1 x Medical Superintendent - Thursday Island and Bamaga Hospitals
- 7 x Trainees/Rural Generalists/General Practitioners
- 1 x Resident Medical Officer/Principal House Officer (Rotational)

Thursday Island Community Health

- 1 x Medical Director, Northern Primary Health Medicine
- 3 x Trainees/Rural Generalists/General Practitioners
- 3 x Principal House Officers

Bamaga hospital and Primary Health Care Centre

- 4 x Trainees/Rural Generalists/General Practitioners
- 1 x Principal House Officer

Badu Island Primary Health Care Centre

- » 1 x Rural Generalist/General Practitioner

EASTERN SECTOR

- 1 x Eastern Director, Medical Services (based in Cooktown)

Cooktown Hospital

- 8 x Trainees/Rural Generalists/General Practitioners
- 1 x Resident Medical Officer (Rotational)

WESTERN SECTOR

- 1 x Western Director, Medical Services (based in Weipa)

Weipa Hospital

- 4.5 x Trainees/Rural Generalists/General Practitioners
- 2 x Resident Medical Officers (Rotational)

The following advanced skills training (AST)/advanced rural skills training (ARST) are highly regarded:

	Cooktown*	Weipa	Thursday Island	Thursday Island PHC	Bamaga	Badu Island PHC
OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY	●	●	●	●	●	●
ANAESTHETICS	●	●	●	●	●	●
MENTAL HEALTH	●	●	●	●	●	●
EMERGENCY MEDICINE	●	●	●	●	●	●
SURGERY	●	●	●	●	●	●
INTERNAL MEDICINE	●	●	●	●	●	●
PAEDIATRICS	●	●	●	●	●	●
INDIGENOUS HEALTH	●	●	●	●	●	●

Facility also employs: Health Workers, Operational Staff and Administration Staff

Resident Medical Officers

Approximate Remuneration Package – as at 1/07/19

Remuneration Package*	L2		L7	
	Fortnightly amount (\$)*	Yearly amount (\$)*	Fortnightly amount (\$)*	Yearly amount (\$)*
Base Salary	\$3,198	\$83,434	\$4,920	\$128,362
Professional Development Allowance - Vocational Training Subsidy	\$144	\$3,762	\$144	\$3,762
Inaccessibility allowance – Thursday Island **		\$41,400		\$41,400
Superannuation	\$408	\$10,638	\$627	\$16,366
TOTAL REMUNERATION	\$3,750	\$139,234	\$5,692	\$181,890
Plus				
On-Call	Paid per occurrence			
Recalls	Paid per occurrence			
Overtime	Paid per occurrence			
Shift Penalties	Paid per occurrence			
Locality allowance	Paid per location			
Leave Loading	Up to 14% paid on leave			
Salary sacrificing	\$17,000 grossed up taxable value			
Rent Free Accommodation	Yes - As per TCHHS Policy			
Subsidised Utilities	Yes - As per TCHHS Policy			
Annual Leave	5 weeks per year			
Professional Development Leave	2.2 weeks per year			
Examination Leave	As agreed			
Range of special leave types	Yes			
Indemnity	Yes			
Federal Government Incentives	http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/rural-regional-health-australia-list-programmes			

* Paid pro-rata for engagement period or part time employee

** - 50% paid after six month completion period and then 25% paid in three monthly installment thereafter

Senior Medical Officers/Rural Generalist Provisional Fellows/Rural Generalists

Approximate Remuneration Package – as at 1/07/19

Remuneration Package*	L13		L25	
	Fortnightly amount (\$)*	Yearly amount (\$)*	Fortnightly amount (\$)*	Yearly amount (\$)*
Base Salary	\$5,964	\$155,589	\$8,237	\$214,897
Professional Development Allowance	\$805	\$21,000	\$805	\$21,000
Motor Vehicle Allowance	\$805	\$21,000	\$977	\$25,500
Attraction and Retention (35%) – Assigned Model	\$2,087	\$54,456	\$2,883	\$75,214
Rural and Remote (15%) - Torres & Cape based	\$895	\$23,338	\$1,236	\$32,235
Inaccessibility Allowance – Thursday Island **		\$41,400		\$41,400
Superannuation	\$850	\$22,171	\$1,174	\$30,623
TOTAL REMUNERATION	\$11,405	\$338,955	\$15,312	\$440,868
Plus				
On-Call	1:3 or 1:4 paid per occurrence			
Recalls	Paid per occurrence			
Overtime	Paid per occurrence			
Shift Penalties	Paid per occurrence			
Locality Allowance	Paid per location			
Leave Loading	Up to 14% paid on leave			
Salary sacrificing	\$17,000 grossed up taxable value			
Rent Free Accommodation	Yes - As per TCHHS Policy			
Subsidised Utilities	Yes - As per TCHHS Policy			
Annual Leave	5 weeks per year			
Professional Development Leave	3.6 week per year			
Range of special leave types	Yes			
Indemnity	Yes			
Federal Government Incentives	http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/rural-regional-health-australia-list-programmes			

* Paid pro-rata for engagement period or part time employee

** - 50% paid after six month completion period and then 25% paid in three monthly installment thereafter

Staff Specialists

Approximate Remuneration Package – as at 1/07/19

Remuneration Package*	L18		L27	
	Fortnightly amount (\$)*	Yearly amount (\$)*	Fortnightly amount (\$)*	Yearly amount (\$)*
Base Salary	\$6,888	\$179,703	\$8,733	\$227,843
Professional Development Allowance	\$805	\$21,000	\$805	\$21,000
Motor Vehicle Allowance	\$805	\$21,000	\$977	\$25,500
Attraction and Retention (50%) – Assigned Model	\$3,444	\$89,852	\$4,367	\$113,922
Rural and Remote (5%) - Cairns based	\$344	\$8,985	\$437	\$11,392
Superannuation	\$1,014	\$26,461	\$1,286	\$33,550
TOTAL REMUNERATION	\$13,301	\$347,001	\$16,605	\$433,207
Plus				
On-Call	Paid per occurrence			
Recalls	Paid per occurrence			
Overtime	Paid per occurrence			
Locality Allowance	Paid per location			
Leave Loading	Up to 14% paid on leave			
Salary Sacrificing	\$17,000 grossed up taxable value			
Travel to remote locations	Paid by HHS			
Annual Leave	5 weeks per year			
Professional Development Leave	3.6 weeks per year			
Range of special leave types	Yes			
Indemnity	Yes			
Federal Government Incentives	http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/rural-regional-health-australia-list-programmes			

* Paid pro-rata for engagement period or part time employee

** - 50% paid after six month completion period and then 25% paid in three monthly installment thereafter

Local Attractions

James Cook Museum

Housed in a stunning nineteenth century former convent, the James Cook Museum in Cooktown is one of Queensland's best museums, showcasing the fascinating history of this remarkable town. Were it not for the efforts of the National Trust and the people of north Queensland in the late 1960s, the then deteriorating convent building would have been lost. Thanks to detailed restoration efforts, the building that was once St Mary's Convent has been returned to its former glory and is brimming with artefacts, information and captivating stories.

Natures Powerhouse and Botanic Gardens Cooktown

One of the highlights of Cooktown, Nature's Powerhouse is an Environment Interpretive Centre and Cooktown's accredited Visitor Information Centre, located in the historic Botanic Gardens. The building nestles among huge granite boulders in a lovely bush setting. Cooktown's magnificent Botanic Garden of 62 hectares (154 acres) was established near the town in 1878.

Tip of Cape York

Cape York is not only the name of the peninsula - it is the name of the northernmost point of mainland Australia. It is a beautiful place on the tip of a rocky headland, about 15 minutes' walk from the carpark. There are some beautiful views over the emerald blue ocean and York and Eborac Islands in the background.

On the tip there is a sign saying, "*You are standing at the northernmost point of mainland Australia*".



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