Hospital
Echuca Regional Health
226 Service Street, Echuca

Campuses at which pharmacy Interns will work
Echuca Regional Health

Hospital Information
Echuca Regional Health (ERH) is located approximately 180 kilometres directly north of Melbourne in the Shire of Campaspe (Vic) and adjacent to the community of Moama (NSW). Echuca-Moama is surrounded by the Murray River, which provides for an area prosperous with agriculture, tourism, industry, development and new residents.

ERH has undergone significant upgrades over the past 3 years and now has brand new facilities, including a new pharmacy department. ERH has 68 acute beds (which will increase over the next 3 years) in areas of Medical, Surgical, High Dependency, Obstetric, Paediatric, Rehabilitation, Emergency medicine and Palliative care. There is also a Haemodialysis and Chemotherapy day unit.

ERH pharmacy department utilises technology for medication management, in particular, electronic medication charts, automated dispensing machines in all inpatient areas and cytotoxic and aseptic isolators.

Pharmacy Department

Department Head
Mr Christopher Turner  B.Pharm
Director of Pharmacy
Tel. 03 5485 5986

Department Information

The Pharmacy Department is staffed by a team of 4.6 EFT pharmacists, 1 intern and 3.3 EFT technicians. Pharmacy services are provided to all areas, including inpatients, day treatment unit patients and outpatients. Hours of service are 8:30am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday. Weekend and on call services are staffed by pharmacists on a rostered basis. Staff are not expected to work on public holidays, with an on call pharmacist rostered for these days.

The new pharmacy department was opened in August 2015, providing modern and up to date facilities purpose designed to deliver our pharmacy services.

Clinical pharmacy services are provided to the following areas: general medical and surgical, high dependency, paediatrics, maternity, emergency, oncology, renal dialysis, rehabilitation and palliative care.

The focus of our work is to provide the highest standard of pharmaceutical care through a commitment to meeting the needs of our patients and customers and this was reflected in the pharmacy department’s exceptional outcomes in the hospitals 2014 accreditation. Our clinical
pharmacy service includes medication reconciliation, medication order clinical review, therapeutic drug monitoring, medication counselling and participation in multidisciplinary ward rounds.

Other services offered by the pharmacy department include outpatient dispensing, aseptic and oncology compounding, outpatient medication reviews (falls and balance clinic), antimicrobial stewardship, patient education (cardiac rehabilitation, pulmonary rehabilitation, heart failure clinic, antenatal classes, primary health clinics), medication safety and drug information.

ERH pharmacy department also has a strong presence on several committees, including medication safety, infection control, policy and procedures and medication incidents.

ERH pharmacy department also services Cohuna District Hospital and Rochester and Elmore District Health Service, with interns gaining experience working at smaller rural hospitals and being involved with clinical decision making, protocol/procedure updating, residential medication reviews and accreditation support.

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**Pharmacy Intern Training Program**

*Pharmacy Intern Training Program Coordinator*

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Pharmacy Department Manager
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*Pharmacy Intern Training Program*

ERH has 1 intern position available each year. The structured program provides interns with many learning opportunities and they understanding that we are providing training for them to become the best pharmacist they can be, not only to be successful in their intern exams.

The program promotes accurate dispensing, a variety of clinical knowledge, support in their new role and preparedness for when they register as a pharmacist.

Our current preceptor has many years of experience and training in this role and utilises their experience as a senior clinical pharmacist and further education in this area.

Interns are provided with a comprehensive training calendar, which outlines the learning plan and tutorial roster.

Interns will spend time in all areas of the ERH Pharmacy Department and in areas that the department service, including:

- General Clinical rotations
- Specialist Clinical rotations
- Inpatient and outpatient dispensing
- Extemporaneous and aseptic manufacturing
- Medication safety and drug information

The intern has a weekly meeting with the preceptor to discuss their progress, plan for continuing professional development, challenges and achievements.

Extensive assistance is available for both the written and oral registration exams, in the form of practice exams, take home exams and quizzes.
The intern has the choice between two intern training programs, Monash University or PSA and the preceptor is happy to work with either program depending on the intern’s choice.

**Contact person**
For information regarding the Pharmacy Intern Training Program at Echuca Regional Health, please contact:

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