

SURGICAL TRAINING

The Hunter New England Surgical Network employs Postgraduate Year 3+ Surgical Senior Resident Medical Officers and Unaccredited Registrars to work in a Network of Hospitals.

The Network offers a comprehensive surgical education and training program, aimed at providing all SRMOs and unaccredited registrars with the skills and knowledge required to apply to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons for Surgical Education and Training (SET*).

* Further information on the selection and appointment process for Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Surgical Education Training (SET) can be found on the RACS website www.surgeons.org. Applications for RACS SET for 2010 closed earlier this year.

10 Reasons to Choose Surgical Training with Hunter New England

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

- 1) The College Accreditation Committee has recognised the general surgical training program at John Hunter Hospital as one of Australia's very best. John Hunter Hospital has enjoyed a first time pass rate of 100% in the FRACS part 2 General Surgical examinations since opening in 1991.
- 2) Close to 100% of our trainees successfully get onto the subspecialty advanced training program of their choice.
- 3) The HNE Network is unique in offering trainees ample exposure to outpatient clinics and endoscopy.
- 4) Obtain relevant **hands on** experience.
- 5) Combine career advancement with an enviable lifestyle – close to the beaches, vineyards, Sydney and everything on the Australian Eastern Seaboard that counts
- 6) You will obtain significant experience with trauma and complex surgical cases at John Hunter Hospital, the largest trauma hospital in NSW and the tertiary referral centre for the Hunter Valley and northern NSW.
- 7) Most sub-specialties in Surgery are available within the Hunter New England Area Health Service including Cardiothoracic, Colorectal, ENT, HPB and Upper GI, Maxillofacial, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics, Paediatric, Urology and Vascular. Advanced training is also available in most of these sub-specialties
- 8) The 114-bed John Hunter Children's Hospital is the only major children's hospital outside of an Australian capital city.
- 9) There is a dedicated focus on Continuing Medical Education (CME) and quality-assurance programs comprising regular audit and clinical meetings, training sessions, and access to the Surgical Skills Room and the HNE Skills and Simulation Centre
- 10) Strong links with the internationally renowned Hunter Medical Research Institute and the University of Newcastle's Medical School

Dr Stephen Smith
HNE Network Director Surgical Training

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www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

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• John Hunter & John Hunter Children's	Dr Stephen Smith
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• Manning Base (Taree)	Dr Moheb Ghaly
• Mater Misericordiae	Dr Ralph Gourlay
• Royal Newcastle (Ortho)	Dr David Gill
• Tamworth	Dr Frank Sardelic

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

The Hunter New England Surgical Network offers excellent surgical clinical training and experience and long-term career opportunities.

Career progression and opportunities include the following surgical specialty areas:

- Cardiothoracics
- General Surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Ophthalmology
- Oral Maxillofacial
- Orthopaedics
- Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery
- Paediatric Surgery
- Trauma Surgery
- Urology
- Vascular

TRAINING & EDUCATION

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

The Hunter New England Network offers an excellent training program for surgical training. Training includes on the job, classroom, practical, simulation and private study.

General Surgery Training

Hunter New England offers great opportunity for training in surgery. Our training is unique in offering all trainees ample exposure to outpatient clinics and endoscopy.

Registrars & Senior Resident Medical Officers obtain hands on experience and can participate in the full spectrum of surgical activity from early in their training.

Whatever your vocational goals, HNE Surgery assures you of a satisfying and challenging training experience.

The College Accreditation Committee has recognised the general surgical training program at John Hunter Hospital as one of Australia's very best.

Orthopaedics Training

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the Royal Newcastle Centre is the centre of the Newcastle Orthopaedic Training Scheme. Training and developing our staff to provide a high quality orthopaedic service is a priority for us. A healthy schedule of teaching sessions is provided within the department.

Positions are available for unaccredited registrars and senior resident medical officers and offer valuable experience for those interested in pursuing orthopaedic training.

Positions for Accredited Registrars are coordinated by the AOA and advertised early each year. Accredited training in orthopaedics towards the FRACS is conducted over four years under the direction of the RACS and the Australian Orthopaedic Association (AOA). Training registrars are appointed to the Newcastle training scheme by the National selection process, which has been adopted by the AOA.

During training, registrars rotate through a variety of posts including elective, trauma, and rural services. We pride ourselves in the high operative caseloads that our trainees participate in. With the availability of separate elective and trauma rotations, our trainees do not suffer for lack of practical experience across the board.

Subspecialty services include:

- General Orthopaedics
- Orthopaedic Trauma
- Adult Joint Reconstruction
- Paediatric Orthopaedics
- Hand Surgery
- Foot and Ankle Surgery
- Spinal Surgery

Education

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

Formal Education Program

Trainees have access to protected teaching time each week to attend the formal Network education program held at John Hunter Hospital. The program is presented by Consultants. The format of this weekly education program is designed to assist trainees with preparation for the RACS Surgical Sciences Examination.

The education program includes formal lectures including MCQs, practical sessions and practice clinical examinations.

Copies of powerpoint presentations & MCQs are available on the HNE Surgical Training Website. There is also the opportunity to attend regular SET2 sessions led by a consultant surgeon.

Education Timetable 2009

- PRACTICE CLINICAL EXAM (OSCA) – twice per year prior to exams.
- PRACTICAL EDUCATION SESSIONS CONDUCTED IN NEW PURPOSE BUILT SURGICAL SKILLS ROOM:
 - For example:
 - Instrument Handling, Knots and Sutures
 - Two Handed Ties
 - Tendon & Nerve Repair
 - Vascular Anastomosis and Vessel Handling
 - Bowel Anastomosis
 - Urology – Catheterisation, Suprapubic and Urethral
 - Intercostal Chest Tube
 - Airway Management
 - Basic Laparoscopic Skills
- CLASSROOM BASED (Including MCQs):
 - For example:
 - Embryology
 - Neuro Anatomy Part One: (Skull and Brain)
 - Neuro Anatomy Part Two: (Spine and Peripheral Nerves)
 - Head & Neck: (Basic Anatomy Upper Airway, Sinuses and Ear)
 - Oesophageal & Gastric Anatomy and Physiology
 - Chest Anatomy
 - Haematology
 - Muscle Physiology
 - Renal Physiology
 - Respiratory Physiology: (Part One)
 - Respiratory Part Two: (Post Operative Respiratory)
 - Cardiovascular Physiology MCQ Exam Preparation
 - Vascular
 - Abdominal – Pancreaticobiliary
 - Intestinal Anatomy & Physiology
 - Liver
 - Colorectal / Pelvis / Perineum
 - Renal: (Acute renal failure post op, Dialysis patients)
 - Transplant
 - CT Scans & X-Rays (Abdo/Thorax) x 4 sessions with Lindsay Rowe
 - Hand
 - Hip
 - Lower Limb - Foot and Ankle
 - Lumbar Spine
 - Shoulders
 - Trauma

- Immunology
- Biochemistry, Hormones and Endocrine
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
 - Interview and CV Skills
- WEEKEND EDUCATION SESSIONS:
 - Tamworth Country Cutting Festival
 - Vascular, Cardiac and Bowel Surgical Trainee Anastomotic Training Weekend
 - Anatomy Part One: Abdomen / Peritoneal Cavity & Thorax & Colorectal / Pelvis / Perineum
 - Anatomy Part Two: Neck / Thyroid / Scalp / Face / Parotid & Lower Limb & Upper Limb / Hand
 - Hunter Surgical Society Acute Surgery Conference

Hunter New England Skills & Simulation Centre

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/HNESSC

The Hunter New England (HNE) Skills & Simulation Centre based at John Hunter Hospital allows surgical trainees the opportunity to practice their suturing and laparoscopic skills in virtual reality as well as dry lab modules.

The HNE Skills & Simulation Centre was established in 2003 as a joint initiative between the University of Newcastle and the area health service. It is located within the Division of Surgery at the John Hunter Hospital and houses a suite of part-task trainers and mannequins.

The specific aims of the centre are:

- To provide a cross-disciplinary, inter-professional educational facility
- Provide training that targets integrated clinical management, procedural and communication skills
- Minimise adverse events Ensure fitness to function as part of a team Enhance patient and staff safety

Trainees have access to equipment and courses run by the skills & simulation centre.

There is a simulation-based program designed to increase participant comfort and knowledge in dealing with both the medical and non-medical aspects of a crisis based on the principles of Crisis Resource management.

Simulation based courses suitable for Surgical Trainees include:

- JMO Cardiac Arrest program
- Medical Emergency Team Training
- Intensive Training in Airway Management
- Difficult Airway Management
- Non-Anaesthetist Paediatric Sedation Program
- Simulation enhanced Advanced Life Support.

There are also opportunities to be involved in teaching and research.

Teaching On The Run

The Centre for Medical Professional Development offers all medical staff the opportunity to participate in the nationally recognised Teaching on the Run Program workshops regularly throughout the year.

There are six modules in the Teaching on the Run Program: Clinical bedside teaching, Teaching clinical skills, Assessment and appraisal, Planning term learning, Effective group teaching, The Junior Medical Officer in difficulty.

Centre for Medical Professional Development

The Centre for Medical Professional Development was established in September, 2004, through a partnership between Hunter New England Health and the School of Medical Practice and Population Health, University of Newcastle. The role of the Centre is to initiate, coordinate and broker the delivery of medical professional development to the Area's medical workforce of 1500 Doctors. Tailored programs have been developed for doctors joining us from overseas and for Career Medical Officers, in addition to the roll-out of Teaching on the Run for those interested in building their confidence and competence as clinical teachers.

Future programs include Professional Development for Junior Consultants and courses in communication skills for risk management.

- Better Doctor Patient Communication to Enhance Patient Outcomes
- Working Towards Work/Life Balance
- Junior Consultants Program
- Teaching on the Run
- Interview Skills
- AMC Exam Preparation Study Group
- Simulated Medical Emergency Training for Career Medical Officers

Hunter Postgraduate Medical Institute

www.hpmi.org

The Hunter Postgraduate Medical Institute is committed to excellence in continuing professional development. HPMI is an independent, non-government, non-profit, medical education body that provides quality, independent Continuing Professional Development to the health profession in the Hunter region. One of HPMI's main objectives is to encourage lifelong learning.

The HPMI is closely affiliated with Faculty of Health, The University of Newcastle, Hunter New England Area Health Service, the Hunter Urban & Rural Divisions, General Practice Training Valley to Coast and the Australian Postgraduate Federation in Medicine and Specialist Colleges.

The HPMI also provides fund holding and secretarial services for various Specialist Societies, notably the Hunter Surgical Society, Newcastle Board of Orthopaedic Studies and the Hunter and Northern Society of Physicians.

HPMI offers complimentary membership for resident medical officers. The HPMI is the secretariat for the Hunter Surgical Society and surgical registrars are eligible for half membership fees. You will find further information on HPMI website.

State-wide Education Program

The Institute of Medical Education and Training in conjunction with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons organise State Wide Surgical Education Programs. The HNE Network strongly encourages trainees to attend these programs.

- Microbiology
- Pathology
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Anatomy: Head, Neck & Neuroanatomy / Abdomen & Thorax / Limbs & Pelvis

Research

Research is strongly encouraged and supported. There are strong ties to the Newcastle University, with two Research Consultants attached to the Department of Surgery. Those interested in research are well catered for by the clinical activities in the Division of Surgery and by the University's strong reputation and facilities in genetics, familial cancer syndromes, immunology and molecular biology of cancer and wound healing. John Hunter Hospital is the chief teaching hospital for the University of Newcastle Medical School.

Involvement in research will provide an excellent opportunity to enhance your curriculum vitae to be more competitive for selection to the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Surgical Education Trainee (SET) Program.

Hunter Medical Research Institute

www.hmri.net.au

We encourage and support research through the HMRI, Australia's only regionally based, internationally competitive health and medical research institute.

Established in 1998, the Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) is a unique partnership between Hunter New England Health, the University of Newcastle and the community. It provides a strong voice for health and medical research in our region.

The Hunter Region is increasingly recognised internationally for its strength in health and medical research, education and training. The establishment of HMRI is a unique opportunity to capitalise on the region's strategic advantage in health and medical research and biotechnology.

HMRI has several strategic advantages for health and medical research. The population of our region is stable and well characterised, with a mixture of ages, socio-economic status and urban/rural location that makes it a microcosm of Australia and ideal for population based studies. In addition, there is a strong technical, research and education base combined with a tradition of multidisciplinary research.

As a research hub, HMRI creates an environment that nurtures health and medical research. HMRI provides a focal point for the coordination of research strategy, resources and funding.

HNE NETWORK HOSPITALS

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

John Hunter and John Hunter Children's Hospitals

Lookout Road, New Lambton Heights NSW 2305

The John Hunter and John Hunter Children's Hospitals are tertiary referral centres for the Hunter New England (HNE) Area Health Service. Both hospitals are closely affiliated with the University of Newcastle. Hunter New England Health covers an area of more than 130,000 square kilometres (map attached) and currently has a population of 837,670 (ABS).

John Hunter Hospital

John Hunter Hospital is the region's largest hospital with 550 beds (plus an additional 115 beds in the John Hunter Children's Hospital). [ICU beds 14, HDU beds 4, Cardiac ICU beds 5].

John Hunter Hospital has the busiest emergency department in the state and is the only trauma centre in NSW outside Sydney and Referrals are received from other major regional centres. A helicopter service is staffed by the Intensive Care Unit for retrievals.

John Hunter Hospital provides a range of services such as:

- a full range of surgical services with most sub-specialties in surgery including Cardiothoracic, Colorectal, Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery/ENT, General Surgery, HPB and Upper GI, Maxillofacial, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics, Paediatric Surgery, Urology, Trauma and Vascular.
- a full range of sub-specialty medical services
- anaesthesia and intensive care
- emergency medicine
- high dependency
- kidney transplants
- neonatal intensive care
- obstetrics and gynaecology
- paediatrics
- pathology
- radiology

The hospital provides emergency and elective surgical care to the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and Port Stephens regions in association with Belmont Hospital and Newcastle Calvary Mater Hospital. Maitland Hospital is the other major regional centre with a functional on call surgical roster. At present the majority of elective orthopaedic and urological surgery is conducted at the Royal Newcastle Centre located on the Rankin Park Campus adjoined to John Hunter Hospital. Surgery is well supported by Anaesthesia and Intensive Care. The Hunter Area Pathology Service provides pathology services. Hunter Health Imaging Services provides radiology services.

Trauma:

John Hunter Hospital is verified as a Level One Trauma Centre by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. John Hunter Hospital is the busiest trauma centre in NSW and treats more than 400 severely injured people every year, up to 20 per cent more than the next busiest trauma centre in Sydney. Last year 3,800 people with injuries classified as trauma were admitted to John Hunter Hospital. John Hunter Hospital is also the only trauma centre in NSW that cares for both adults and children. The John Hunter Hospital Trauma Service also plays a leading role in research, education and training. The Trauma Service is participating in several multi-centre research trails and regularly publishes in national and international scientific journals and present at scientific meetings.

Emergency:

John Hunter Hospital is a Level Six Emergency facility providing care for both Adult and Paediatric patients. It is the busiest emergency department in the state treating approximately 61,000 patients annually including paediatric, adolescent, adult and aged care patients. Actual attendances from 1st January to 31 December 2007 were 60,638.

John Hunter Children's Hospital

John Hunter Children's Hospital is the flagship of Kaleidoscope, an integrated Hunter wide child health service that links a range of community and hospital based services. The John Hunter Children's Hospital is one of the three designated Children's Hospitals in NSW. The 115 bed tertiary facility provides care for those aged from 23 weeks to 18 years through the Hunter, New England and north to the Queensland border. Services provided include a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, medical, surgical, adolescent and day stay facilities as well as a comprehensive outpatient service, Kids Kare Line and schooling facility.

John Hunter Hospital General Surgical Training

John Hunter Hospital Surgery offers a broad based intensive training programme for all Surgical Education Trainees (SETs). As the regional trauma and tertiary-referral centre for the Hunter Valley and northern New South Wales, the hospital deals with a large number of complex cases. Trainees have exposure to outpatient clinics and endoscopy.

There is a dedicated focus on Continuing Medical Education (CME) and quality-assurance programs comprising regular audit and clinical meetings, training sessions, and access to the HNE Surgical Skills Room and the HNE Skills and Simulation Centre. All surgical staff participate in surgical education.

Research is strongly encouraged and supported. There are strong ties to the Newcastle University. Those interested in research are well catered for by the clinical activities in the Division of Surgery.

Royal Newcastle Centre

Lookout Road, New Lambton 2305

Orthopaedics Training

The orthopaedics department provides elective and trauma orthopaedic services to the Newcastle and the Hunter Valley region and is a tertiary referral teaching unit receiving patients from the North-East sector of New South Wales.

Subspecialty services include:

- General Orthopaedics
- Orthopaedic Trauma
- Adult Joint Reconstruction
- Paediatric Orthopaedics
- Hand Surgery
- Foot and Ankle Surgery
- Spinal Surgery

General Information

The Royal Newcastle Centre has 84 inpatient beds in three wards and 60 interventional suite beds. It has three levels and includes procedure rooms catering for a wide range of clinical conditions, consulting rooms for a wide range of ambulatory (outpatient) care services, operating rooms, overnight and day wards.

The Royal Newcastle Centre provides treatment for patients in specialities such as:

- Orthopaedics
- Orthopaedic rehabilitation
- Rheumatology
- Urology
- Ophthalmology
- Dermatology
- Diabetes
- Immunology
- Podiatry

Other clinical services include medical and surgical outpatients, cardiac catheterisation, endoscopy, diagnostic radiology, pathology testing, surgical services, interventional procedures and the Hunter Integrated Pain Service.

Maitland

550 - 560 High Street, Maitland NSW 2320

The Maitland Hospital is a health facility for the Upper and Lower Hunter Regions. The urban/rural population serviced is approximately 72,000 and incorporates Maitland, Cessnock, Kurri Kurri, Singleton, Muswellbrook, Dungog and Raymond Terrace. The hospital is located 35 minutes from the John Hunter Hospital and transport by air or road is facilitated by NSW Ambulance Services.

A comprehensive range of services is provided including medical and rehabilitation, surgical and day surgery, and maternity and child services. There is a busy Emergency Department, and a coronary care/high dependency unit. Mental health, dental and renal services are provided on-site, as well as diagnostic services. An array of allied health services, both hospital and community-based, includes occupational therapy, speech pathology, dietetics, psychology, physiotherapy and social work services. Other outpatient and community-based services include pre-admission and antenatal clinics, palliative care nursing and the post acute community care service (PACC), which provides care in the home, as opposed to care in the hospital setting, for suitable patients.

Mater Misericordiae

Edith Street, Waratah NSW 2298

The Newcastle Mater Misericordiae provides a comprehensive range of services, including:

- 24 hour emergency care service
- clinical haematology (blood)
- clinical pharmacology & toxicology (drugs and poisons)
- critical care
- drug and alcohol
- general and specialised surgical including plastic surgery
- liaison psychiatry
- medical
- oncology (cancers)
- palliative and hospice care (care of the dying)
- radiotherapy

This facility is the Hunter region's major centre for oncology (cancer) services, which include haematology, breast cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment and melanoma prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

Belmont Hospital

Croudace Bay Road, Belmont NSW 2280

Belmont Hospital is a 75-bed acute facility. Services provided include general medicine, general surgery, day surgery, coronary care unit, gynaecology, neonatal, obstetrics and a 24-hour emergency department.

The range of Allied Health Services includes Physiotherapy, Social Work, Dietetics, Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy. Radiology and Pathology services are provided by Hunter New England Health.

Armidale Hospital

Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350

Armidale Hospital is an accredited hospital serving the community since 1858. Accommodation is provided for all types of medical services including medicine, surgery, obstetrics, paediatrics, geriatrics and accident and emergency as well as outpatient clinics. Ancillary medical services including radiology, pathology, occupational and speech therapy, social work, physiotherapy and pharmacy are an integral part of the organisation and contribute to the high level of patient care at Armidale Hospital.

Tamworth Base Hospital

Dean Street Tamworth NSW 2348

Tamworth Hospital provides 270 beds with a 24 hour Emergency Department, high level Surgical and Medical services, including a Diagnostic Cardiac Catheterisation laboratory, Burns Unit, Rehabilitation services (including Brain Injury), a Diabetes Centre, Banksia Mental Health Unit, Renal services, Oncology, Radiology and Pathology.

Outpatient clinics link the New England with specialist tertiary hospitals in Newcastle and Sydney.

Tamworth Community Health Centre is located in Johnson House adjacent to Tamworth Base Hospital, providing access to a range of community based health services. These include:

- Child and Family Health services, including Aboriginal Mother and Babies Service, a Child Development Service and a Family Care Cottage.
- Therapy and support services, including Genetic Counselling, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Social Workers and Speech Pathology.
- Community Nursing, Continence Advisor, Diabetic Services, Hearing Services, Aged Care Assessment Team, Alcohol & Other Drugs Service, Palliative Care, Podiatry, Respiratory Services, Sexual Health, Women's Health, Primary Health staff for surrounding communities.

Manning Base Hospital (Taree)

26 York Street, Taree NSW 2430

Manning Hospital - Taree provides a broad range of specialist services to the residents of Greater Taree, Great Lakes and Gloucester Local council areas.

The hospital has specialist wards/units for Surgery, Day Surgery, General Medicine, Critical Care, Obstetrics, Paediatrics, Emergency Services, Oncology, Palliative Care, Rehabilitation, High Dependency Nursing and Mental Health.

These facilities are backed up by a broad range of diagnostic and allied health services including Radiology, Ultrasound, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, ECG and Discharge Planning. Plus Administration and Hotel Services support.

Co-located with the health service are the Taree Community Health Centre, Public Dental Clinic, Mental Health Service and Drug and Alcohol Service incorporating the Methadone Treatment Unit.

The health service operates 166 beds including 20 Mental Health beds and treats approximately 12,000 inpatients and 20,000 Emergency Department patients each year.

ACCOMMODATION

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

Property classified details can be easily found on the Internet

For Newcastle the popular suburbs for our medical staff are Cooks Hill, Bar Beach, Merewether, The Junction and Hamilton. These suburbs are all within 15 to 20 minutes drive from the John Hunter Hospital/Royal Newcastle Centre and are popular due to their proximity to beaches, pubs, cafes and restaurants. Those who prefer to live close to the John Hunter Hospital/ Royal Newcastle Centre usually choose Lambton and New Lambton.

LIFESTYLE

www.hnehealth.nsw.gov.au/surgicaltraining

Working for Hunter New England Health allows you to combine a challenging career with a great lifestyle. With HNE Health you will enjoy good working conditions and peer support in an environment conducive to further training.