

MENTAL HEALTH NEW GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM



Hunter New England Local Health District (HNE Health) is proud to introduce its Mental Health Service New Graduate Nurse Program.

HNE Health has a long-standing commitment to clinical teaching and is excited to offer nurses in the first year of their practice this opportunity.

The Hunter New England Mental Health Transition to Professional Practice (TPP) is designed to provide nurses who are new to mental health with the necessary clinical skills and knowledge to practice safely and deliver a high standard of clinical care.

Hunter New England Mental Health provides a comprehensive range of community, hospital and specialist services from over 20 locations including: The Mater Mental Health Centre, James Fletcher Campus in Newcastle, John Hunter Hospital, Morisset Hospital, Tamworth, Armidale and New England areas as well as Maitland and Taree.

The seven facilities which offer placements for mental health New Graduates and participate in the Hunter New England Mental Health Transition to Specialist Practice Program (TSPP) are:

- The Mater Mental Health Centre at Waratah
- Maitland Mental Health Unit, on the grounds of the Maitland Hospital
- Morisset Hospital
- Intermediate Stay Mental Health Unit at the James Fletcher Campus
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Inpatient Unit at the John Hunter Hospital.
- Banksia Mental Health Unit on the grounds of Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital
- Manning Rural Referral Hospital (Taree) Mental Health Unit

The program features:

- A one-year specialist program in mental health nursing
- Comprehensive orientation
- Supernumerary status on commencement to hospital/ward/service
- A variety of work settings which range from the city of Newcastle through to rural locations
- Clinical placements which will include experiences in inpatient units, both acute and long term
- Assignment to a multi-disciplinary team
- The support of a clinical mentor and regular clinical supervision
- A dedicated Clinical Nurse Educator who provides individualised education and training.
- Mandatory clinical skills building days which focus on discussion, critical thinking and education to enhance your professional development

- Access to specific online learning through Mental Health Professionals Online Development (MHPOD)
- Completion of Transition to Mental Health Nursing workbooks during the program
- Certificate of completion at end of the program
- Opportunities exist for future employment and career planning

Important Note

During your first year, you will be required to undertake training including but not limited to: Prevention and Management of Violence and Aggression, Child Protection, MHOAT Training whilst ensuring that all mandatory training requirements are completed on an annual basis.

The orientation schedule for all new graduate nurses is completed and sent through to each staff member prior to commencement.

Mental Health Centre, the Mater Campus

Number of beds: 125 (Mental Health Centre, the Mater – 101 beds and Maitland – 24 beds)

The Mater Mental Health Centre is a 101-bed acute mental health facility located adjacent to the Calvary Mater Newcastle hospital campus, Waratah.

Services include General Psychiatry, Specialist Mental Health Services for Older People, Mental Health and Substance Use Service, a 24-hour Psychiatric Emergency Care Centre and a Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit. Medical services are provided by consultant psychiatrists, trainee psychiatrists and junior medical staff.

Other services at the site include Centre for Brain and Mental Health Research, Hunter New England Mental Health management, Mental Health and Substance Use and Neuropsychiatry Service outpatient services.

Maitland Hospital – Mental Health

Maitland 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, and Dungog.

The hospital is located 40 minutes from the John Hunter Hospital and transport by air or road is facilitated by NSW Ambulance Services. This hospital is a major general hospital with Consultation Liaison Psychiatry Services.

It has a 24-bed acute mental health unit with Adult Community mental health, Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Rehabilitation teams.

Morriset Hospital

Rehabilitation and Clinical Support Program is a component of the Psychiatric Rehabilitation Service (PRS). The mission of PRS is to enhance opportunities for people with a mental illness to live with independence and dignity in the community, through the provision of high-quality rehabilitation services, consultancies and partnerships.

The Kaoriki ward provides high quality assessment, treatment and rehabilitation inpatient services for people with behavioural, psychiatric and/or cognitive disturbances due to brain injury or disease.

Kestrel Unit is a 30 bed Male Medium Secure Unit which provides a supportive environment for people with severe and enduring mental health problems with a heightened level of risk who require a more secure environment. The unit caters for forensic and civilian patients, who meet the criteria for admission and are suitable for rehabilitation

Banksia Mental Health Unit- Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital

Banksia is a specialist 25- bed unit designed to cater for the needs of people with mental health problems in the acute stage of their illness.

Admission to this unit may be of a voluntary basis or under the Mental Health Act. The Unit is situated on the grounds of the Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital and is staffed by a team of psychiatrists, resident medical officers, nurses and allied health professionals.

Manning Rural Referral Hospital – Taree Mental Health Unit

Taree Mental Health Unit is a 20-bed acute inpatient unit located on the Manning Rural Referral Hospital Campus designed to cater for the needs of people with mental health problems in the acute stage of their illness.

Admission to this unit may be of a voluntary basis or under the Mental Health Act.

The unit works in collaboration with the local community mental health teams to support easy transition between community and inpatient care.

Contact information

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