



Ballarat Health Services (BHS) is the largest regional hospital in the Grampians region, and as such, is the principle referral hospital for the entire region, which extends from Bacchus Marsh to the South Australian border; an area of 48,000 square kilometres.

BHS works to improve the health and wellbeing of its patients, their families and the community. BHS is a total health care provider, meaning that it cares for patients and the community with a comprehensive range of general and specialist care, across every key medical and healthcare discipline.

<b>Beds at Ballarat Health Services</b>	
Acute	224
Sub-acute	70
Mental health	67
<b>Total beds</b>	<b>361</b>

BHS continues to expand each year. In 2013 the Ballarat Regional Integrated Cancer Centre (BRICC) opened, enhancing the oncology services provided by the hospital. A helipad for critical air ambulance emergency transfers in Ballarat and across Western Victoria was opened in 2015 along with a new multi-story car park and Mother and Family Unit, which offers specialised assessment and treatment for women experiencing mental illness before and after birth. In 2017 the Gardiner-Pittard Building opened, serving as the main entrance to the hospital and encompassing a new ward block, along with a second cardiac catheterisation lab to provide additional services for patients requiring interventional radiology and cardiology sessions. In 2018 the redeveloped Children's Ward was opened providing new and improved facilities for paediatric patients.

Further major investments will see the creation of a new emergency department, a modernised acute mental health facility, a new intensive care unit, a women and children's hub, an expanded critical care 'hot floor' and at least an extra 100-inpatient beds.

The BHS Pharmacy Department is growing as the hospital expands offering great future job opportunities. The Department is a credentialed training site for both the Monash Intern Foundation Program (IFP) and the SHPA Residency Program.

In addition, the Department offers access to:

- More than 30 pharmacists with a diverse range of clinical backgrounds and specialties
- A relaxed and friendly supported working environment
- Regular CPD sessions throughout the hospital, region and within the Pharmacy Department including fortnightly journal club
- Opportunities to attend professional seminars and conferences

#### **Intern Program Coordinator**

Caitlin Yorke

[caitlin.yorke@bhs.org.au](mailto:caitlin.yorke@bhs.org.au)

#### **Director of Pharmacy**

Aaron Fitzpatrick

[aaron.fitzpatrick@bhs.org.au](mailto:aaron.fitzpatrick@bhs.org.au)

## Intern Training Program Overview

BHS offers four Intern Pharmacist positions;

- 2 internships based at BHS
- 1 internship based at BHS with possible 4-6 week rotation to Wimmera Health Care Group (Horsham)
- 1 internship based at BHS with a regional rotation of approximately 12 weeks to participating Grampians Regional Health Services sites (refer to Grampians Regional Internship for more information)

Our structured training program provides interns with a wealth of learning opportunities to achieve their goal of becoming a registered pharmacist. The program is also designed to promote the highest level of clinical pharmacy knowledge, dispensing and manufacturing accuracy and support for the transition from intern to registered pharmacist.

### Preceptor

- Interns are assigned a preceptor for their year of training. A preceptor is a pharmacist with experience in supervision and training and a passion for teaching and development. All BHS preceptors are credentialed Monash University Clinical Pharmacy Educators.

### Intern Training Manual

- Interns are provided with a comprehensive training manual (on USB) on commencement of their internship. The manual outlines all of the important components of the training year including: departmental procedures, roles and responsibilities of intern for each rotation, theory questions to assist with learning during rotations and tutorial questions.

### Rotations

- Interns spend time working in all areas of the BHS Pharmacy Department including;
  - General clinical rotations (3-4 weeks) including general medicine with insight into Partnered Pharmacist Medication Charting (PPMC) processes, neurology, cardiology, oncology, general surgery, urology, gynaecology, orthopaedics and subacute services (including rehabilitation, geriatrics and palliative care)
  - Specialty clinical rotations (2-3 weeks): Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, paediatrics, mental health.
  - Cardiology ambulatory clinic
  - Inpatient, outpatient and oncology (Ballarat Regional Integrated Cancer Centre) dispensaries
  - Extemporaneous and aseptic manufacturing
  - Medication Safety, Antimicrobial Stewardship & Hospital Admissions Risk Program (HARP)
  - Clinical trials
- Individual feedback and goal setting sessions follow each rotation to encourage the intern to progress their learning, encourage self-reflection on practice and plan for continuing professional development opportunities.

### Tutorial program

- Weekly tutorials are provided by BHS pharmacists.
  - Tutorial topics include disease states, drug classes, primary health care and exam preparation.
- BHS Pharmacy Department also provides many other educational programs that intern pharmacists are encouraged to attend and contribute to including fortnightly journal club meetings, intervention of the week and 'How Do I...?' programs'.

### Registration examination preparation

- Extensive assistance with preparation for both the written and oral registration examinations is offered throughout the year including quiz sessions, one-on-one practice exams and take-home questions.

### Support for Monash or PSA intern training programs (ITP) plus the Monash Intern Foundation Program (IFP)

- The choice of ITP is yours!