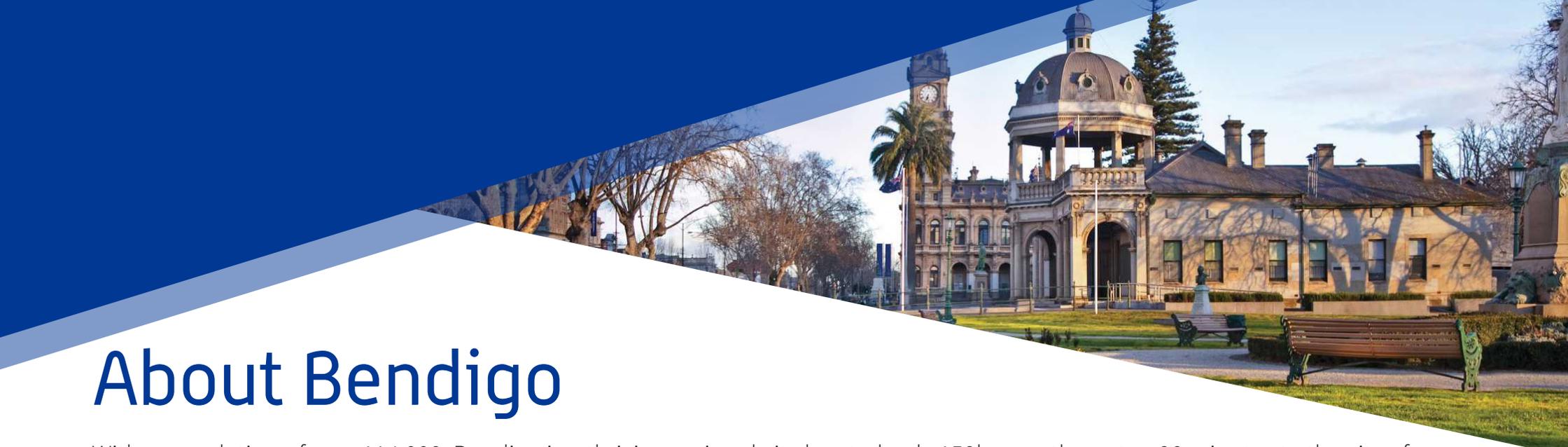




Pharmacy Internship 2023





About Bendigo

With a population of over 114,000, Bendigo is a thriving regional city located only 150km north west or 90 minutes to the city of Melbourne. It is a city with attributes of urban metropolis and the benefits of living in regional Australia. Bendigo provides a strong supportive community base with good schools and excellent infrastructure. Fantastic restaurants, shops, cultural precincts, sporting facilities and tertiary facilities make our city a great place to live and work.

Bendigo has an abundance of dining – from hatted restaurants and fine dining, to pubs and café culture. We have a world-class stadium – including the show court arena for major sporting events and over 50 sports fields. Bendigo offers everything from football and soccer to netball and basketball; rugby and cricket to baseball and self-defense; badminton and tennis to rowing, mountain bike riding, hockey, lacrosse, futsal and everything in between.

With the Ulumbarra and Capital theatres, Bendigo hosts many live shows and concerts. We also host many music festivals including Groovin the Moo, as well as cultural festivals including Illumin8 – festival of light and peace, and the Bendigo Easter Festival – the longest running community cultural festival in Australia. Rich in Chinese history, the festival first began in 1879. Regional rent and property prices are significantly lower – making the cost of living more affordable than in the city. Plus, you only need to travel minutes, rather than hours to and from work.



About Bendigo Health

With more than 5000 staff and volunteers and covering an area a quarter of the size of Victoria, Bendigo Health is an expanding regional health service offering the advantages of city life combined with the beauty and freedom that comes from living in a regional area.

Bendigo Health is a 766 bed service that treats more than 50,000 inpatients, triages more than 60,000 emergency attendees and welcomes more than 1,700 new born babies in a year. In addition more than 15,000 operations are performed in our operating theatres and more than 118,000 occasions of services are provided in our clinics to outpatients.

The organisation provides services in emergency, maternity, women's health, medical imaging, pathology, rehabilitation, community services, residential aged care, psychiatric care, community dental, hospice/palliative care, theatre, cardiology, cancer services and renal dialysis to the people of the Loddon Mallee region. We are also fortunate enough to have a Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre campus on site, bringing radiotherapy to our patients, enabling close to home care.

With our main campus based in Bendigo, our services extend throughout the Loddon Mallee with sites in areas such as Mildura, Echuca, Swan Hill, Kyneton and Castlemaine. Demand on services is increasing rapidly with Bendigo being one of Victoria's fastest growing regional cities.



Excellent Care. Every Person. Every Time.



Pharmacy Department

Bendigo Health Pharmacy Department provides services to the Bendigo Hospital, which includes acute wards (such as Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, ICU, Emergency, Women's and Children's), sub-acute rehabilitation wards and Psychiatric services. We also provide services to Hospice, Theatres, Hospital in the Home, Renal Dialysis, Oncology and an Outpatient Pharmacy service.

We currently have 27 pharmacists (23 EFT), 11 technicians (9 EFT) and 2 intern pharmacists providing our service 7 days a week.

We have a complete Electronic Patient Record, a pharmacy robot and Pixis machines. We play a significant role in the development and training of students, graduates and staff through placements, lectures and various education activities.

As a regional referral hospital there are diverse career opportunities awaiting you within the delivery of clinical pharmacy services in a supportive and friendly environment.



Internship Program

The Intern Training Program (ITP) is designed to provide our interns with not only a sound and comprehensive training in pharmacy practice but also the provision of both an efficient and accurate pharmacy service.

The Intern Foundation Program (IFP) is also offered to interns, which includes activities such as: feedback from ward based activities, a research project, educational presentations and provides you with Graduate Certificate in Pharmacy Practice at the end of your intern year.

As our intern, you will be rotated through the range of areas as detailed below:

Rotations

Clinical Services: A comprehensive orientation and training program awaits you in the provision of ward based pharmacy services. This includes medication reconciliation, clinical overview of medication charts and knowledge of clinical protocols, therapeutic drug monitoring, clinical meetings and working as part of multidisciplinary teams. Throughout the year, you will rotate through all ward areas including Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedics, Psychiatry, ICU, GEM, Rehab, Cardiology and Oncology. You will also see an overview of drug use evaluation exercises to ensure appropriateness of therapies, such as the restricted antibiotic usage via the IDEA3S program.



Dispensing: In our dispensary you will be involved in all processes of inpatient, outpatient and discharge dispensing. This will give you an understanding of the principles of dispensing and the ability to identify patient needs. You will assist with counselling, preparation and provision of medication profiles tailored for specific individual patient needs.

Education and training: You will have the chance to observe, then present our outpatient and nursing education program such as the cardiac rehabilitation talk. The presentation is part of a wider education program and focuses on commonly used cardiac medications and the importance of medication compliance. We also provide in-service education activities to wards, new rotating doctors and community groups.

Medication Safety: An area in our department, responsible for the quality use of medicines with a patient safety focus. This includes performing departmental and organisational audits, contributing to the Medication Safety Newsletter, reporting to Therapeutic Goods of Australia, updating hospital policies and health promotion.

Manufacturing: You will have the opportunity to learn, practice and become competent in aseptic preparation including chemotherapy, and will play a major role in our rapidly growing area of non-sterile manufacturing.



Stock control: You will spend time with the technicians to learn about ordering, receipting orders, imprest, stock usage and recall processes.

SAS drugs/Clinical trials: You will have the opportunity to learn and understand the responsibilities of such programs required of trials and SAS drugs.

Preceptor & Mentor: Each intern has a preceptor and mentor who are there to guide and support you through your internship. Mentors are pharmacists who recently completed their internship and help support you with settling into work and exam practice.



Study

Tutorials: We are committed to your education and provide a comprehensive training program, with input from all pharmacists to ensure you get the most out of your ITP. Tutorials are run once or twice a week (for approximately 1 hour) and are matched up with topics from your intern training program. They differ in format with some requiring you to present information to the pharmacist (summary tables, and presentation PowerPoints), whilst others remain true to the question/answer format. During tutes, there are many questions to help you prepare for your final end of year exams. The topics are reviewed each year based on previous intern feedback and titrated to the interns interests and needs.

APC Written Exam Preparation: A month before the scheduled APC written exam there is a study weekend focusing on the following areas: Law/Forensics, calculations and new therapeutic updates. You will also be provided with an array of practice exams to prepare for the APC exam and plenty of work time allocated to this.

Oral Exam Preparations: Preparation for your oral examination starts with your very first tutorial. Leading up to the exam your tutorials will become oral exam preparations. Over the 2 months prior to your exam, we create a roster with a variety of different pharmacists in the department so you can practice an oral exam with different pharmacists each week. To make your learning experience more rounded, we are also fortunate enough to have great relationships with our community pharmacists and one of them comes along to help with the mock examination process — providing you with additional primary health care advice and input.

Intern Tutorial Roster 2022

Wednesdays 2-3pm

Date	Tutorial Topic	Pharmacist
05-Jan	Hypertension & Dyslipidaemia	Monet
12-Jan	Analgesia and Palliative Care	Chris
19-Jan	Medicines Information	Caillan
26-Jan	Australia Day	
02-Feb	Glaucoma & Eyes	Trevi
09-Feb	Heart Failure	Chris
16-Feb	Seminar #1	
23-Feb	Arrhythmias & Anticoagulation	Fiona
02-Mar	Acute Coronary Syndrome	Lucy
09-Mar	Anti-infectives ¹	Mel
16-Mar	Neurology ²	Amanda
23-Mar	Electrolytes, Pathology & Lines	Mel
30-Mar	Respiratory	Cerisse
06-Apr	Liver / Gastrointestinal	GP
13-Apr	Calculations #1	Mel
20-Apr	Easter	
27-Apr	Oncology Fundamentals	Patrina
04-May	Renal Function & Failure	Mel
11-May	Women's Health ³	GP
18-May	Diabetes	Mark
25-May	Paediatrics	Yvette
01-Jun	Seminar #2	
08-Jun	Psychiatry 1	Jess
15-Jun	Psychiatry 2	Jess
22-Jun	Psychiatry 3	Jess
29-Jun	The basics of pharmacokinetics ⁴	Arun
06-Jul	Pharmacy Law/PBS - exam prep	Mel
13-Jul	Intern Presentation - IFP projects	Interns
20-Jul	Seminar #3	
27-Jul	Calculations #2	Monet
03-Aug	OTC Revision	Anita
10-Aug →	Practice Exams	Pharmacists

Note: The OTC Topic Roster & Practice exam roster will run in addition to this roster

1. With Case Based Discussion
2. Epilepsy, Parkinson's & Migraines
3. Contraception, Menopause, Fertility & Pregnancy
4. Also hepatic metabolism of drugs



Previous Intern Pharmacists

Pictured below are three of our pharmacy interns from the last two years who currently work at Bendigo Health as Clinical Pharmacists:



Trevi Leader



Gai Porh La Myint



Chris Lewin

Contact

For more information about the Pharmacy Intern Training Program at Bendigo Health, please contact:

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