



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Department of
General Practice
and Primary Care



VicREN- Education

The Department of General Practice and Primary Care is committed to enhancing general practice through excellent education that engages with the community and the wider health care system.

Each year we coordinate around 1,300 Doctor of Medicine (MD) student placements in general practice clinics throughout Victoria. Students are guided and supported in their learning by skilled general practitioners and exposed to a wide variety of patient situations. Face-to-face clinical experience is an important component of their four-year post-graduate medical course.

We strongly promote a whole-of-practice approach to learning. Students are encouraged to spend time with both clinical and non-clinical staff in the clinic to learn how their individual roles contribute to primary care. In 2023, 681 MD students were placed in 249 Victorian general practices for 9430 placement days. 22 per cent of these placements were in rural locations.

Year 1: Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship

This placement exposes students early to the intrinsic role that general practice plays in the health care system. Students attend the same practice for 12 days.

Year 2: Discovery

Students can choose to complete a discovery subject that focuses on the transition of care between hospital and general practice. This four-week subject involves six days of placement equally split between hospital and community settings.

Year 3: GP Block Rotation

This 5-6 week GP block provides an opportunity for students to learn about general practice as a distinct specialist discipline. Students attend a clinic for three days each week, where they consult patients and participate in all clinic activities.

Year 3: Research Project

Students undertake a research project with the opportunity to choose general practice as an area of focus.

Year 4: Transition to Internship

Students undertake a research project in the first semester of their final year and students undertaking their research in the Department do five days clinical placement.

Year 4: Vocational Selective

Students attend full-time for a four-week block. The Vocational Selective allows students who have almost finished their medical course to explore an area of clinical practice in which they think they might like to develop a career.

Benefits

Practices are eligible to claim the teaching Practice Incentive Payment.

All GP Supervisors receive training to enrich the educational quality of general practice placements for our students.

Supervisors gain skills in medical education.

For more
information, [click](#)
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