

# Northern Health Pharmacy Internship



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Northern Health acknowledges the rich Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which our health services are built, the Wurundjeri Willum Clan and Taungurung People.

We acknowledge the waterways, the land, the sky and all who inhabit this place we call – Country.

We pay respect and acknowledge their ancestors and Elders, past, present and future, we recognise those who continue to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.



Our values are integral to the culture of care,  
team work and collaboration at Northern Health.

## Safe

We provide safe, trusted care for our patients.

We are inclusive and culturally safe, celebrating the diversity of our staff and community.



## Kind

We treat everyone with kindness, respect and empathy.

We provide patient-centred and compassionate care.





## Together

We work together with our staff, patients, consumers and health system partners.



## Map of Northern Health Services



-  Hospital
-  MH Services





## Growth

Northern Health catchment includes three of the state's six growth areas: Hume, Whittlesea & Mitchell. By 2031, the Northern Growth corridor is forecast to have around 137,000 residents, an increase of approximately 70% from 2020.

Our emergency department treats over 110,000 patients each year and supported over 35,000 patients in the Virtual ED. Northern Health cares for over 97,000 patients admitted to hospital each year (over 35,000 arriving by ambulance) and assists with the delivery of over 3,300 babies.

We are increasing our services and capacity to improve access and meet the growing demands of the Northern community.

In the past 12 months alone we have introduced 18 new pharmacist roles and 5 technician roles to our team.



## Pharmacy Department

Northern Health has a pharmacy department consisting of 120 pharmacists, 5 interns and 35 technicians working throughout all campuses.

Our team consists of approachable, experienced senior pharmacists, together with junior pharmacists developing their knowledge and skills.

This provides an extremely supportive and friendly working environment, which aims to motivate and challenge, thus creating opportunities to learn.



# Pharmacy Department

The range of specialty areas within the department include, but not limited to:

- Haematology & oncology
- Gastroenterology
- Renal
- Emergency medicine
- Hospital in the home
- Palliative care
- Cardiology
- Respiratory
- Stroke/neurology
- Geriatric medicine
- Mental health
- General surgery
- Intensive care
- Paediatrics/neonatal
- Maternity services
- Anticoagulant stewardship
- Analgesic stewardship
- Antimicrobial stewardship
- Clinical trials
- Sterile and non-sterile manufacturing





## Intern Pharmacist Program

- Three-weekly rotational roster
- Weekly tutorials
- Dedicated mentor
- Research opportunities
- Exam support and guidance

**5 DHHS funded Intern  
Positions are available  
at Northern Health in  
2026**





# Intern Pharmacist Roster

Interns will be rotated between:

- Clinical roles (~70%)
- Dispensary (~12.5%)
- Manufacturing (~12.5%)
- Project work (~5 %)

Including rotations to sub-acute sites (Broadmeadows Hospital and Bundoora Centre) as well as involvement in Research and Quality activities.

Ward rotations include medical & surgical wards, emergency department, maternity, paediatric, psychiatric and stewardship services.

Interns will be working under the supervision of experienced pharmacists, who will aid the interns in developing their clinical skills and knowledge.

	Week	Starting	Intern 1	Intern 2	Intern 3	Intern 4	Intern 5
JANUARY	1	2/01/2025	ORIENTATION	ORIENTATION	ORIENTATION	ORIENTATION	ORIENTATION
	2	6/01/2025	DISP	MEDICAL/ACS	MANUF	SURGICAL/AGS	DISP
	3	13/01/2025	DISP	MEDICAL	MANUF	SURGICAL	DISP
	4	20/01/2025	DISP	MEDICAL	MANUF	SURGICAL	DISP
FEBRUARY	5	27/01/2025	SURGICAL/AGS	DISP	MEDICAL/ACS	MANUF	CRITICAL CARE
	6	3/02/2025	SURGICAL	DISP	MEDICAL	MANUF	CRITICAL CARE
	7	10/02/2025	SURGICAL	DISP	MEDICAL	MANUF	CRITICAL CARE
	8	17/02/2025	CRITICAL CARE	SURGICAL/AGS	DISP	MEDICAL/ACS	MANUF
MARCH	9	24/02/2025	CRITICAL CARE	SURGICAL	DISP	MEDICAL	MANUF
	10	3/03/2025	CRITICAL CARE	SURGICAL	DISP	MEDICAL	MANUF
	11	10/03/2025	MANUF	ONC, W&C	CRITICAL CARE	DISP	SURGICAL/AGS
	12	17/03/2025	MANUF	ONC, W&C	CRITICAL CARE	DISP	SURGICAL
APRIL	13	24/03/2025	MANUF	ONC, W&C	CRITICAL CARE	DISP	SURGICAL
	14	31/03/2025	MENTAL HEALTH	MANUF	SURGICAL/AGS	BH	ONC, W&C
	15	7/04/2025	MENTAL HEALTH	MANUF	SURGICAL	BH	ONC, W&C
	16	14/04/2025	AMS/HITH	MANUF	SURGICAL	BH	ONC, W&C
MAY	17	21/04/2025	MEDICAL/ACS	CRITICAL CARE	MANUF	AMS/HITH	BH
	18	28/04/2025	MEDICAL	CRITICAL CARE	MANUF	MENTAL HEALTH	BH
	19	5/05/2025	MEDICAL	CRITICAL CARE	MANUF	MENTAL HEALTH	BH
	20	12/05/2025	PROJECT WORK	PROJECT WORK	BH	MANUF	MEDICAL/ACS
JUNE	21	19/05/2025	ONC, W&C	AMS/HITH	BH	MANUF	MEDICAL
	22	26/05/2025	ONC, W&C	MENTAL HEALTH	BH	MANUF	MEDICAL
	23	2/06/2025	ONC, W&C	MENTAL HEALTH	PROJECT WORK	PROJECT WORK	PROJECT WORK
	24	9/06/2025	PROJECT WORK	PROJECT WORK	MENTAL HEALTH	CRITICAL CARE	BC
JULY	25	16/06/2025	BH	MANUF	MENTAL HEALTH	CRITICAL CARE	BC
	26	23/06/2025	BH	MANUF	PROJECT WORK	CRITICAL CARE	BC
	27	30/06/2025	BH	MANUF	AMS/HITH	PROJECT WORK	PROJECT WORK
	28	7/07/2025	PROJECT WORK	PROJECT WORK	BC	ONC, W&C	MENTAL HEALTH
AUGUST	29	14/07/2025	MANUF	BH	BC	ONC, W&C	MENTAL HEALTH
	30	21/07/2025	MANUF	BH	BC	ONC, W&C	PROJECT WORK
	31	28/07/2025	MANUF	BH	PROJECT WORK	PROJECT WORK	AMS/HITH
	32	4/08/2025	QUM	CRITICAL CARE	ONC, W&C	DISP	QUM
SEPTEMBER	33	11/08/2025	BC	CRITICAL CARE	ONC, W&C	DISP	MANUF
	34	18/08/2025	BC	CRITICAL CARE	ONC, W&C	DISP	MANUF
	35	25/08/2025	BC	QUM	DISP	MEDICAL/IBD	MANUF
	36	1/09/2025	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C	DISP	MEDICAL	CRITICAL CARE
OCTOBER	37	8/09/2025	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C	DISP	MEDICAL	CRITICAL CARE
	38	15/09/2025	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C	QUM	QUM	CRITICAL CARE
	39	22/09/2025	CRITICAL CARE	DISP	MEDICAL/IBD	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C
	40	29/09/2025	CRITICAL CARE	DISP	MEDICAL	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C
NOVEMBER	41	6/10/2025	CRITICAL CARE	DISP	MEDICAL	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C
	42	13/10/2025	DISP	MEDICAL/IBD	CRITICAL CARE	ONC, W&C	SURGICAL
	43	20/10/2025	DISP	MEDICAL	CRITICAL CARE	ONC, W&C	SURGICAL
	44	27/10/2025	DISP	MEDICAL	CRITICAL CARE	ONC, W&C	SURGICAL
DECEMBER	45	3/11/2025	MEDICAL/IBD	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C	BC	DISP
	46	10/11/2025	MEDICAL	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C	BC	DISP
	47	17/11/2025	MEDICAL	SURGICAL	ONC, W&C	BC	DISP
	48	24/11/2025	ONC, W&C	BC	SURGICAL	CRITICAL CARE	MEDICAL/IBD
	49	1/12/2025	ONC, W&C	BC	SURGICAL	CRITICAL CARE	MEDICAL
	50	8/12/2025	ONC, W&C	BC	SURGICAL	CRITICAL CARE	MEDICAL
	51	15/12/2025	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
	52	22/12/2025	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC

# Intern Pharmacist Tutorials

Tutorials are conducted weekly on a wide range of clinical and over the counter (OTC) topics including preparation for exams.

Tutorials may be given by the intern coordinator, senior pharmacists and the interns themselves.

Interns will undertake practice exams for both the written (in group) and oral (one-on-one) exams.

## Intern Pharmacist Tutorial Program 2025

Date	Thursday 2.30 pm - 3:30pm	Presenter	Thursday 3:30 pm - 5 pm	Presenter
03/01	Clinical Orientation	Education Team	Clinical Orientation	Education Team
9/01	Orientation Tutorial & OTC Tutorials	Education Team	Medication Strategy & QUM session	Pharmacist
16/01	Anticoagulation Prevention and therapy	Pharmacist	Electrolytes and lab data	Pharmacist
22/01	Cardiology	Pharmacist	Research Project & Study preparation	Education Team
30/01	Analgesics	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care-Analgesics/Pain Management	Intern 1
05/02	Renal Medicine	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Infants	Intern 2
13/02	ID & AMS	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Dermatology 1	Intern 3
20/02	ID & AMS	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Dermatology 2	Intern 4
27/02	Emergency Medicine	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Gastrointestinal	Intern 5
06/03	Respiratory Medicine- Asthma and COPD	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Oral Care and Mouth Conditions	Intern 1
13/03	Perioperative & Surgical medication management	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Respiratory 1	Intern 2
20/03	Mental Health	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Respiratory 2	Intern 3
27/03	Pregnancy, breastfeeding & paediatric	Pharmacist	Primary Health Care- Eye Conditions	Intern 4
03/04	PBS, National Health Act, Regulations and Continued Dispensing Determination for Prescribers and Pharmacists	Education Team	PBS, National Health Act, Regulations and Continued Dispensing Determination for Prescribers and Pharmacists	Education Team
10/04	DPCS Act and Regulations	Education Team	DPCS Act and Regulations	Education Team
17/04	PBA Guidelines	Education Team	PBA Guidelines	Education Team
24/04	Pharmacy Regulation Act, VPA Guidelines, SafeScript & SUSMP	Education Team	Pharmacy Regulation Act, VPA Guidelines, SafeScript & SUSMP	Education Team
01/05	Law catch up	Education Team	Law scenarios	Education Team
08/05	PBA Oral Exam Overview and Question sheet	Education Team	APC Written Exam Overview	Education Team
15/05	Endocrinology- Diabetes	Pharmacist	Written exam feedback	Education Team
22/05	Neurology- Parkinson's Disease	Pharmacist	Clinical Trials	Pharmacist

## Intern Pharmacist Mentors

Each intern is allocated a dedicated mentor, who is a recently registered pharmacist familiar with the intern training year and the expectations for exam preparations.

The interns have weekly meetings with their mentor, to improve their medication knowledge, discuss questions the intern may have, provide study tips/tricks and time management advice.

Interns also have the Intern Training Program Coordinator (Preceptor) and education team who support the interns throughout the year and coordinates documentation for Board and training program assessments.





## Research & Quality improvement

The Pharmacy Department supports intern improvement in quality and research projects

- Interns are allocated an individual research/quality project.
- Assigned a supervisor to assist with project.
- Dedicated time for data collection, analysis and write up.
- Opportunity to showcase project at Northern Health Research week or external conferences.



# Join our Pharmily!

"If you are looking for a nurturing workplace that cares about you and your growth, then the Northern is the place for you."

**- Jier (Director of Pharmacy)**

**NH employee since internship 2006**

"An interactive and fun department who are always willing to help each other."

**- Carmela (Grade 2 Pharmacist) NH employee since internship 2013**

"My experience at NH, supported by a dedicated and knowledgeable team has been instrumental in developing my clinical skills and professional confidence, shaping me into the pharmacist I am today."

**- Hasitha (Grade 1 Pharmacist). NH employee since internship 2024**



**Northern Health**



"The support & guidance from the pharmacy team has helped me to have a great start to my intern year and I am on my way to becoming a confident and competent pharmacist"

**- Aaron (Grade 1 Resident Pharmacist). NH employee since internship 2023**

"Northern Health has provided me great opportunities to enhance my career, while working in a caring and friendly environment"

**- Angela (Grade 4 Lead Pharmacist – Workforce Strategy)**

"The weekly tutorials equipped us with the knowledge to prepare us for exams and being paired up with a mentor is a great example of the support we received as interns."

**- Naemah (Grade 1 Resident Pharmacist). NH employee since internship 2022**

"I have been given the opportunity to work amongst various areas of clinical practice and have loved the challenge. The team has been nothing but supportive"

**- Nikayla (Grade 1 Resident Pharmacist). NH employee since internship 2023**



# Get to know our Pharmily!

Northern Health



[www.nh.org.au](http://www.nh.org.au)

