

# Emergency Medicine Interest Group (EMIG)

## Welcome

Today is an opportunity to meet some of the staff from the Emergency Department (ED) at Westmead Hospital. This is your opportunity to ask about Emergency Medicine as a specialty area, what chances you'll have for learning in the ED during your training and learn more about what EMIG does.



## Orientation to the Emergency Department and EMIG group

What is EMIG and what does it do?

- EMIG is a student lead group that helps students to learn about emergency medicine. EMIG aims to organise events and activities with a high educational value of relevance to emergency medicine. Meetings are held periodically through the academic year and details of these are sent by email, advertised in posters and put on our facebook page.

What can the ED offer you as a medical student?

- Observing patient care in the ED
- Taking a history from a patient
- Performing a clinical examination on a patient
- Talking to patients about their illness and how it affects them and their families
- Observing other skilled health workers (e.g. nurses, physiotherapists, social workers)

Attendance out of hours (after 1800 on a weekday and on weekends)

- Maximum of 4 students (all years) in ED at any one time
- Introduce yourself to an ED Staff Specialist
- State what you would like to do (within reason!)
- Supervision by a member of ED medical staff

Tips

- The department can be, and often is, very busy. You can feel like you are in the way. While this is NOT the case, offering to help the staff will help your learning and free their time up for teaching. Asking sensible questions is also a helpful.



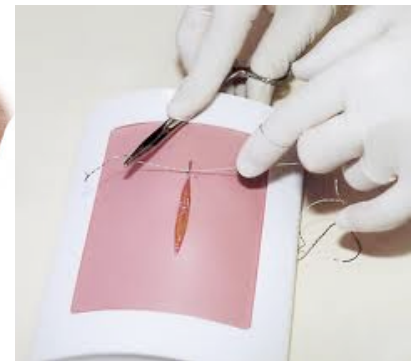
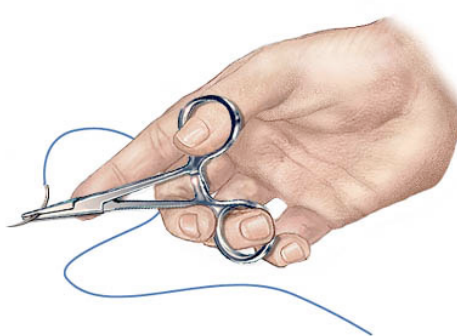
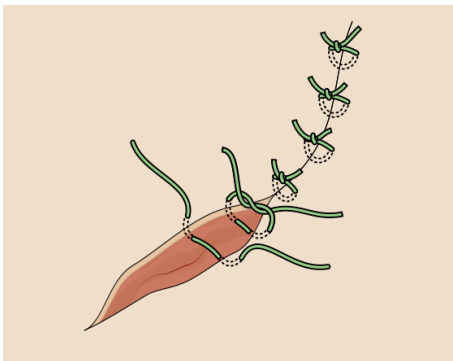
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## Demonstrations

Demonstrations of some basic Emergency Department procedures will give you an idea of an EMIG workshop. In EMIG events practicals are student focused and hands on rather than didactic.

### (1) Suturing Basics

EMIG Demonstrators will show you basic interrupted suturing technique. This is commonly used in the ED setting for simple wound closure. Typically, the process would involve a brief history of how the injury occurred as well as tetanus status and past medical history. Examination of the wound initially determines whether closure can be done in the ED or whether wound repair needs to be done in theatre or elsewhere. Following use of a local anaesthetic and cleaning of the wound with a saline irrigation suturing is performed.



### (2) Airway Management

EMIG Demonstrators will show you basic airway management with a bag valve mask (BVM) – see picture. They will also show you some more invasive airway equipment. You have a chance to ventilate the manikins provided as well as attempt an intubation. Maintaining a good seal is important for ventilating the patient. This is done in basic terms by lifting the face into the mask and applying steady pressure to the mask. Try placing your little, ring and middle fingers of your left hand on the mandible in the shape of the letter 'M' and your thumb and fore finger on the mask in the shape of a 'C'. Gentle squeezes of the bag to Ventilate follow this. Note that a two person technique is often preferable in an Emergency.



### (3) Chest Drainage and Thoracocentesis

EMIG Demonstrators will show you basic airway management with a bag valve mask (BVM) – see picture.