

# 2014-2015 WESTMEAD HOSPITAL ELECTIVE MEDICAL STUDENT ORIENTATION GUIDE:

Welcome to Westmead's Emergency Department. We hope that you enjoy your time with us and have an educational and enjoyable experience.

This emergency medicine elective rotation is an experience aimed at teaching medical students the necessary skills to take care of patients with a wide variety of undifferentiated urgent and emergent conditions.

An emphasis is placed on learning how to approach patients with common and potentially life threatening complaints as well as gaining crucial skills in patient assessment and stabilisation.

Westmead Hospital's Emergency Department is a Level 6 trauma and tertiary referral centre that sees over 65,000 patients per year. It is the entry to the hospital the majority of hospital admissions. The impression many patients get of the hospital will be shaped by their experience in the Emergency Department.

### **ELECTIVE STUDENTS MENTORS:**

Dr Kavita Varshney, Dr Andrew Coggins and Dr Danielle Unwin are the Emergency Medicine consultants that have been allocated as your mentors during your time in ED. Dr Coggins and Dr Varshney are available from Monday to Friday, with the exception of Thursdays. Dr Unwin is available Tuesday through to Friday.

Their contact details are as follows:-

Dr Kavita Varshney Kavita.Varshney@health.nsw.gov.au

Dr Andrew Coggins AndrewrCoggins@gmail.com

Dr Danielle Unwin
 Danielle.Unwin@health.nsw.gov.au

# **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CONTACT NUMBERS:**

ED Secretary +61 02 9845 7607

ED Front Desk +61 02 9845 8205

• ED On the Floor Consultant +61 02 9845 8222

• Emergency (Fire, Police, Ambulance) 000

#### UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY:

The liaison contact at the Western clinical school:

#### **ANGELA WALLACE**

Education Support Officer Stage 3 & Student Elective Officer

Sydney Medical School - Westmead

Clinical Sciences Level 2 | Westmead Hospital C24 | Westmead | NSW | 2145

T: +61 2 9845 9771 F: +61 2 9891 3749

E: angela.wallace@sydney.edu.au

# You must contact the clinical school to formalise your paperwork for your elective.

# WESTMEAD TRANSPORT INFORMATION:

#### Nearest train station:

Westmead (on the Western Line) - 5 min walk from hospital

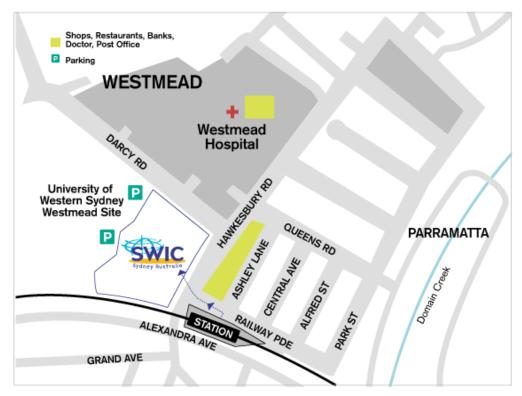
#### Nearest large shopping area:

Westfield Parramatta = 20 min walk 5 min by train (Parramatta is the next stop after Westmead)

#### Nearest airport:

Sydney Airport Kingsford Smith = 1hr by taxi (cost 60 dollars AUS)

1hr by train (need to change trains at Central station – cost 18 dollars AUS)





Westmead is Marked 'A'

#### **ACCOMMODATION:**

Hospital accommodation is available within or opposite Westmead Hospital. Both are relatively cheap and convenient options and can be arranged through Angela Wallace at the Clinical School. Some students choose to apply for short term accommodation closer to the City and commute to Westmead by Train.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT:**

We definitely expect that you will see as much of Sydney as you can while you are here. Some of Sydney's highlights that you should endeavour to see or experience include:

- Bridge climb
- Sydney Opera House
- Darling Harbour
- Blue Mountains
- Homebush Olympic Precinct
- Ferry to Manly
- Bondi Beach
- Palm Beach (where Home & Away is filmed)
- River-Cat Ferry from Parramatta (near Westmead) to Circular Quay

#### WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU:

- Tell us the dates of your term
- Bring paperwork from your home hospital
- Suggest ideas of what you may like to do as a small project
- Wear your ID badge
- Introduce yourself to the consultant on the shift
- Buddy up with one of the Junior Doctors

#### **ED LAYOUT**

#### 1. Acute Care

All patients except those who are suitable to be triaged to Urgent Care are triaged to Acute Care. Acute Care consists of 29 beds or treatment spaces. This includes three resuscitation beds and 26 other beds (including two single rooms). All of the 29 beds have full monitoring capacity. It is divided into Workstation A (Beds 1-9, & 23-29) and Workstation B (Beds 10 -22).

# 2. Urgent Care Centre

Urgent Care Centre is used for the assessment of patients with single system problems unlikely to require admission but may require a period of treatment such as:-

- IV fluids for gastroenteritis or hyperemesis gravidarum
- IV steroids, fluids and antibiotics for tonsillitis
- Injuries not fulfilling trauma criteria
- Threatened miscarriage
- Mild to moderate abdominal pain in patients < 50 with normal vital signs and no comorbidities
- Rashes
- ENT, ophthalmology, orthopaedic, plastics problems
- Other conditions as determined by the senior doctor

Rotate yourself between Workstation A, Workstation B and Urgent Care Centre on different days – it is important that you spend time in each of these areas as the patients and pathologies are quite different.

Rotate yourself between day shifts and the odd evening or weekend shift.

Ward rounds commence at 08 00 and 14 00 at the Workstation A whiteboard.

# **TEACHING SESSIONS:**

There are a number of formal teaching sessions to coincide with the bedside teaching that will occur. You are welcome to attend any of these if you are around at the time of the sessions.

- Junior Doctor (JMO) teaching Various Weekdays at 8.30am in the ED Tutorial room
- **Registrar teaching -** Wednesday morning 8.30am ED Tutorial room
- **Grand Rounds** Medical Rounds 1pm Wednesday Education Block
- **Trauma Meetings** AM on Wednesdays. (Advertised in ED posters)
- **Emergency Medicine Interest Group** Run by local students presents teaching sessions every month during term time. (Advertised in ED posters)
- **Simulation** ask your allotted mentor whether there are any suitable locally run simulation courses for your attend while on your elective

#### LOG BOOK:

- 1. Procedures the student should observe and perform a number of the following common procedures:-
  - \*venepuncture
  - \*cannulation
  - \*IMI medication administration
  - \*IVI medication administration
  - \*urinalysis
  - \*IDC insertion
  - \*backslab application
  - \*suturing
- 2. History Taking the student should attempt to take a history from a variety of patients with common presenting problems.
  - \*chest pain
  - \*abdominal pain
  - \*headache
  - \*breathlessness
  - \*limb injury
- 3. Examination of patients the student will examine appropriate patients and present their findings to either an ED staff specialist or registrar.

# **ED PROJECTS:**

The student can undertake a project under the supervision of the ED consultant supervisor

This might be as simple as an audit, or write up of a case that the student has followed through, or even a more in depth research topic.

# AMBULANCE 'RIDE ALONG':

It is possible for a ride along day with a rapid responder ambulance to be organised if an elective student is interested. Advanced notice will be required as well as evidence of vaccination status. Further information is available on request.

#### UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE WORK PRACTICES:

Medical students working in the ED are at risk of exposure to blood borne pathogens (HIV, Hep B and Hep C). This is because patients with these infections often present with complications of their disease process or "at risk" behaviours. They are often managed under urgent circumstances when things are done hurriedly. Because patients harbouring blood borne pathogens cannot be identified clinically, precautions to minimise the risk of disease transmission are adopted for **all** patients (universal precautions). These include the following:

- 1. Never re-sheath needles or disassemble needle syringe apparatus (dispose of the whole unit directly into a sharps container or place it temporarily in a puncture proof container, then into a sharps bin).
- 2. Trochars and wires can be placed in the large yellow bins.
- 3. Use the self-sheathing (Protectiv ™) intravenous cannulae wherever possible.
- 4. Use the Vacutainer system where ever possible. If you need to manually inject blood into a tube, do not hold the tube; use the clear acrylic holders instead.
- 5. Wear gloves when performing venipuncture, cannulation or other invasive procedures.
- 6. Wear a gown if blood or other body fluids are likely to get on your clothes or your body (impervious long sleeved yellow disposable gowns are available in the resuscitation area).
- 7. Wear a pair of goggles or a mask with a visor if body fluids are considered likely to splash into your eyes or face.
- 8. Do not bring blood samples into the workstations or place them in the bed slots for medical records.
- 9. Make sure your Hep B and Adult Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis immunisations are up-to-date. You should also be aware of your level of immunity to Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella and Tuberculosis. If you are unsure, consult the Staff Health Service and have the appropriate tests. During winter, Staff Health Service provides influenza vaccines to Emergency Department staff.
- 10. Report all needle stick injuries and body fluid exposures immediately.
- 11. All reusable equipment must be cleared of blood and secretions before being placed in the clear plastic bins in the utility rooms.

All medical staff are individually responsible for the appropriate disposal of contaminated waste. All sharps must be placed in sharps containers.

#### **WESTMEAD EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT CONSULTANTS 2014**

Dr Shalini Arunanthy Senior ED Staff Specialist

Dr Rachel Boddy Director of EM Training

Dr Hua Chang Medical Student Co-ordinator

Dr Robert Edwards Senior ED Staff Specialist

Dr Naren Gunja Toxicologist

Dr Shaila Islam ED Staff Specialist

Dr Dushan Jayaweera ED Staff Specialist

Dr Daya Jeganathan DEMT Blacktown

Dr Kevin Lai Trauma Specialist

Dr Mee Ling Medical Student Co-ordinator and TRACE editor

Dr Gopi Mann Toxicologist

Dr Geoff Mifsud Director of EM Training

Dr Satish Mitter Toxicologist

Dr Jannutan Nayim ED Staff Specialist

Dr John Shirley Ultrasound

Dr Amit Shetty Clinical Research

Dr Romesh Singham ED Staff Specialist

Dr Danielle Unwin JMO Co-ordinator and Elective Students Co-ordinator

Dr Kavita Varshney Co-ordinator of Disaster Medicine

Elective Students Co-ordinator

Dr Matthew Vukasovic Emergency Department Director

Dr Andrew Coggins Elective Student Co-ordinator

Primary elective 'contact person'

Dr Jo Koryzna ED Staff Specialist

Dr Kenny Yee ED Staff Specialist