



About The Alfred

The Alfred is a major tertiary referral teaching hospital. Specialist services provided include trauma services, emergency and intensive care, comprehensive cancer services, blood diseases, respiratory medicine, melanoma, bone marrow transplant, cardiology/cardiovascular services, neurosurgery, general and specialist surgery and medicine, psychiatry and diagnostic services.

The Alfred's statewide services include heart and lung replacement and transplantation, cystic fibrosis, burns, HIV/AIDS, haemophilia, sexual health, hyperbaric medicine and elective surgery.

General Medicine at the Alfred provides acute and chronic health care services to the residents of the local municipalities. These services are provided in a range of inpatient and ambulatory settings and in partnership with other community providers.



TheAlfred

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AMeCT

(Acute Medical Clinical Trials Unit)

The Alfred Hospital

2009

AREAS OF INTEREST

ABOUT AMeCT

The Acute Medical Clinical Trials Unit (AMeCT) is the Research Unit of the Department of General Medicine, Professorial General Medical Unit (PGMU) at The Alfred.

General Medicine is one of the larger units at the Alfred Hospital with strong links also to Caulfield and Sandringham Hospitals. We have a broad case mix arising from:

- Acute admissions through the Emergency Department and our Acute Assessment Unit
- Ambulatory care through our various clinics:
 - Chronic Disease Management Unit (DMU)
 - Syncope Clinic
 - Dyspnoea Clinic
 - Perioperative Clinic
 - General Medical Clinics
 - Private practices of our consultants

Our unit comprises 15 consultant physicians with a comprehensive mixture of both general and subspecialty accreditation across a broad range of medical disciplines including Cardiology, Respiratory Medicine, Renal Medicine, Rheumatology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Clinical Pharmacology, Geriatrics and a pending appointment of an Infectious Disease physician.

In addition to these services in Internal Medicine our unit is extensively involved in the peri-operative management of a wide variety of surgical patients including those from General, Urological, Orthopaedic/Orthogeriatrics, Neurosurgical, Ophthalmological, Gastrointestinal, Endocrine and Vascular Surgery as well as patients admitted with Trauma.

Cardiovascular Medicine

Cardiac Failure
Hypertension Syncope
Myocardial infarction (in patients not requiring coronary intervention)
Lipid disorders
Peripheral vascular disease
Atrial fibrillation (AF)

Clinical Pharmacology

Polypharmacy
Drug use in the elderly

Endocrinology

Diabetes: glycaemic control (ambulatory and perioperative patients), glucose monitoring, neuropathy, nephropathy, retinopathy, metabolic markers and other complications
Osteoporosis
Obesity
Thyroid disease
Hyperlipidemia
Hyponatraemia

Gastroenterology

Gastroenteritis
Haematemesis and malaena
Peptic ulceration

Geriatric Syndromes

Delirium
Dementia Ageing
Incontinence
Gait aids
Ulcer prevention
Remote/bedside monitoring

Haematology

Thromboembolism prevention/Anticoagulation
DVT/PE Prophylaxis
DVT/PE treatment
AF
Anaemia – Refractory/iron deficiency

Infectious disease

Urinary tract infection/pyelonephritis
Perioperative antibiotic therapy
Pneumonia
Exacerbation of COPD
Gastroenteritis
Cellulitis
Diabetic foot

Nursing Systems Research

Bedside monitoring
Equipment tracking
Falls prevention devices

Nutrition

Malnutrition
Obesity

Ophthalmology

Diabetic retinopathy
Macular Degeneration
Glaucoma

Renal Medicine

Chronic Renal Failure
Acute Renal Failure

Respiratory Medicine

COPD
Asthma
Pneumonia
Bronchiectasis

Rheumatology

Osteoporosis
Osteoarthritis
Back pain

Urology

Prostatic Hypertrophy
Perioperative antibiotics

FACILITIES

AMeCT is well supported by an extensive clinical pathology laboratory under A/Prof Hans Schneider and also has links with the Monash University Departments of Medicine, and of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine. There is a strong research community at The Alfred with on-site research institutes including the Baker/IDI institute (CVS and Diabetes) and the Burnet Institute (Infectious Diseases).

Our research unit includes dedicated and private consulting space for patients and comfortable office space with excellent IT facilities, storage space and ample desks for monitors and staff as required.

STAFF

Apart from the 15 consultant physicians, 4 of which are geographically full time, the General Medical Unit (PGMU) is well staffed with 5 Advanced Physician Trainee Medical Registrars together with 6 Basic Physician Trainees as well as 7 interns and 3 nurse coordinators. We also have dedicated nursing staff with potential for studies of Nursing Care/aids in a ward environment.

Ms Vathy Nagalingam, our Clinical Trials Coordinator is a critical care nurse with vast experience in clinical trials in the areas of IBD, Hepatology (Hepatitis B and C, Hepatocellular carcinoma), Psychiatry, Thromboembolism, antihypertensive therapies, oncology and cardiovascular studies. Vathy has extensive experience with Ethics sub-missions.