

Alfred Health

Pharmacy Internships 2024

Alfred Health

55 Commercial Road
Prahran VIC 3181

Campuses at which pharmacy intern will work

The Alfred, Caulfield Hospital & Sandringham Hospital

Hospital Information

www.alfredhealth.org.au

The Alfred is a major tertiary referral teaching hospital. It has a major role in the provision of specialist tertiary and quaternary services on a state-wide and national basis:

- Specialist areas include trauma, emergency and intensive care, comprehensive cancer services, blood diseases, melanoma, bone marrow transplant, respiratory medicine, cardiology/cardiovascular, neurosurgery, general and specialist surgery and medicine, psychiatry and diagnostic services
- The Alfred's state-wide services include heart and lung replacement and transplantation, cystic fibrosis, burns, HIV/AIDS, haemophilia, sexual health and hyperbaric medicine

In summary, The Alfred has:

- 334 multi day, 30 ICU, 41 emergency, 54 mental health and 45 same day beds
- 55,000 inpatients per annum
- 39,000 emergency cases per annum
- 60% same day cases per annum
- 305,500 outpatient visits per annum
- small community outreach programs
- links with the Baker Institute and Monash, La Trobe and other universities

Staff benefits include:

- A staff fitness centre, mini-mart with post office and newsagency, the Ian Potter library which has private study areas with internet & e-mail access, salary packaging, plus much more
- Well serviced by public transport – bus routes along Punt Road, trams along St Kilda Road, High Street and Commercial Road, nearby Prahran and South Yarra train stations

Pharmacy Department

Department Head

Professor Michael Dooley, Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, Director of Pharmacy

Department Information

Approximately 200 pharmacists and 50 support staff enable the Alfred Health Pharmacy department to provide a 7 day a week, extended hour clinical pharmacy service incorporating a range of innovative services through five programs:

1. Clinical Pharmacy Services:

Clinical pharmacy services are organised in a unit-based model, with clinical pharmacists operating as part of an integrated team, side-by-side with medical, nursing and allied health staff.

- Cancer and Medical Specialties directorate
Infectious Diseases, Gastroenterology, Palliative Care, Renal, Rheumatology, Oncology, and Haematology
- Cardiorespiratory and Brain
Respiratory, Lung transplantation, Cardiothoracic, Cardiology, ICU and Peri-operative Medicine
- Emergency and Acute Medicine directorate
Emergency Medicine, General Medicine, Neurology, Stroke, Outreach and Disease Management services
- Psychiatry directorate
Inpatient and Outpatient Psychiatry services
- Rehabilitation, Aged and Community care directorate
Rehabilitation, Aged Care, Residential Care and Aged Care Psychiatry
- Surgical directorate
Burns, Trauma, Colorectal Surgery, ENT, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Plastics, Vascular, Breast and Endocrine surgery, Orthopaedics and Vascular Surgery

Clinical pharmacists at Alfred Health are credentialed to undertake a number of pharmacist-led programs independently, including:

- Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and antibiotic dose adjustment
- Smoking cessation program and nicotine replacement prescribing
- Opioid de-escalation
- Warfarin monitoring and dose charting
- Stroke thrombolysis call-outs
- Inpatient medication charting
- Sepsis alert call-outs

2. Quality Use of Medicines Services:

- Medication safety services
- Medication evaluation
- Medicines Information Centre

3. Operational Services:

- Centralised inpatient and discharge dispensing
- Outpatient pharmacy services
- Aseptic preparation, manufacturing services and clinical services to the Hospital in the Home program
- Clinical trial support services to over 120 clinical trials

4. Research:

- State of the art pharmacy based research centre (Monash University Centre for Medication Use and Safety)
- Dedicated research positions funded for research
- Post-graduate and undergraduate research programs
- Funded research projects and collaborations

5. Education:

- Credentialing program for advanced clinical pharmacy practice modules
- Involvement in undergraduate education
- SHPA-accredited Residency Program
- Clinical Pharmacy Fellowship Program – a structured two year program incorporating the Monash Master of Clinical Pharmacy and specialisation in an area of clinical pharmacy
- Clinical Pharmacy PhD Program – opportunity to complete a part time PhD in a clinical speciality

Pharmacy Intern Training Program

Pharmacy Intern Training Program Coordinator

Johnny Nguyen

Senior Pharmacist – Workforce & Development

Contact: johnny.nguyen@alfred.org.au

Pharmacy Intern Training Program

The Pharmacy Department at Alfred Health provides a comprehensive and modern intern training program at one of Australia's most renowned Clinical Pharmacy services. Interns train in a department which is at the leading edge of pharmacy practice, side-by-side with some of Australia's most advanced clinical pharmacists. In 2024, Alfred Health will employ seven interns.

Alfred Health offers the Intern Foundation Program, which enables interns to obtain a Graduate Certificate in Pharmacy Practice from Monash University by recognising workplace learning.

Orientation

Every intern undergoes a one-week orientation program and introduction to the department. Additionally, interns participate in a three-week clinical orientation rotation with their supervisor to develop essential skills in basic clinical pharmacy processes and become familiar with the workplace.

Rotations

Intern rotations will be mainly based at The Alfred, 55 Commercial Road, Melbourne. Rotations include:

- Operational rotations (dispensaries and aseptic preparations)
 - 9 weeks in total
- Clinical rotations (core)
 - 10 weeks in General Medicine (includes rotation to Sandringham campus)
 - 10 weeks in Surgery
 - 6 weeks in Cardiology
 - 5 weeks in Aged Care (includes rotation to Caulfield campus and Community Care)
- Clinical rotation (elective)
 - 6 weeks in a clinical area of intern choice
 - Options include respiratory, emergency medicine, HIV and infectious diseases, renal medicine, haematology and oncology, psychiatry, heart and lung transplant, intensive care, stroke and neurology
- Medicines information
 - 2 weeks

Support

Each intern will be allocated a dedicated Supervisor, to provide guidance, advice and assistance with exam preparation. Each intern will also be allocated a Mentor, who is a senior pharmacist to assist with the development of a research project. Alfred Health also has an Intern Coordinator (member of the dedicated Education Team) to guide you through the year. The majority of staff in the department are actively involved in the intern training program, either through working directly with interns during their rotations and/or via facilitation of weekly intern education sessions.

Education Program

The education program comprises of weekly intern education sessions on a range of clinical, primary care and exam preparation topics. Clinical sessions are often presented by clinical pharmacists in the hospital, many of them specialists in their field. The timetable is coordinated around the intern training programs to ensure you have adequate knowledge to comfortably meet all requirements.

Research and Governance portfolio

Each intern will contribute toward a research project and governance in a specified portfolio. The aim of the Research and Governance Portfolio is to provide an opportunity to develop research, leadership and administrative skills in a chosen speciality. Interns are allocated one day per week to focus on the project and associated activities.

Practice Exams

Multiple practice exams are provided during the year to help you become familiar with the structure of the exams and the questions expected. Four exams will be run by the department under strict exam conditions to simulate the real environment. Additional practice exams are also organised with your Supervisor.

Contact person

Please direct enquires about the pharmacy intern training program to Chloe Bell as per the details above.



Opportunities at Alfred Health after your internship

The Alfred Health Pharmacy Department clinical services are supported by research, educational initiatives and a career progression model. To facilitate this, the following programs are available:

SHPA accredited residency program

- A supported two year program designed for motivated pharmacists in their foundation years
- Includes completion of an audit or quality improvement project

Clinical pharmacy fellowship or advanced residency program

- A two year program designed to facilitate progression to advanced practice in a specific clinical specialty
- May include scholarship funding towards the Master of Clinical Pharmacy (MClinPharm) at Monash University

Clinical pharmacy PhD program

- Designed to give pharmacists the opportunity and support to undertake a research program as a fundamental component of their current practice and appointment
- Supported by department to complete a part-time PhD with Monash University

“The Alfred Health internship is a fantastic opportunity to learn and practice in one of Australia's leading hospital pharmacy services and contribute directly to the care of patients in a dynamic and cutting edge hospital environment.”

Professor Michael Dooley (Director of Pharmacy)