

# Medical Career Pathways with Bendigo Health

## Psychiatry

All inpatient and residential facilities are located in Bendigo. There is one 35 bed adult acute inpatient unit (AAU) on the hospital campus, located in the Psychiatry Precinct along a 20 bed Older Persons (Inpatient) Unit (OPU), a 20 bed Extended Care Unit (ECU) and a 5 bed Parent Infant Unit (PIU). In addition, there is a 12 bed Community Care Unit (CCU) located offsite along with an 8 bed Dual Diagnosis Residential Rehabilitation Unit (DDU). There is also a 10 bed step-up, step-down, Adult Prevention & Recovery Care (APARC) unit, and a 10 bed Youth Prevention and Recovery Care (YPARC) for 16 to 25 year olds.

Outpatient Services are divided into three regions: Greater Bendigo, Northern and Southern regions. Each patient who requires community follow up has a lead clinician in one of our six community clinics. These are the John Bomford Centre (JBC) for Greater Bendigo, with the others located in Castlemaine, Kyneton and Maryborough (Southern Sector) and Echuca and Swan Hill (Northern Sector).

### Positions available

**29 Junior Medical Staff positions** are available in Mental Health (Psychiatry). These positions are a combination of:

- 2 rotating Intern position from hospital Intern program
- 5 rotating HMO (PGY 2+) positions from hospital General HMO stream
- The other 22 positions are a mix of Registrar and HMO positions (12 months duration, which can include an accredited Advanced Skills GP registrar position) – direct Mental Health recruits

In 2021 the 20 direct Mental Health recruited positions are made up of:

- 3 first year accredited Registrars
- 3 second year accredited Registrars
- 3 third year accredited Registrars
- 1 fifth year accredited Registrar
- 1 GP Registrar
- 1 Advanced Trainee
- 3 Unaccredited Registrars
- 1 Medical Officer
- 3 Mental Health HMOs (12 month contracts)

## Teaching Opportunities

- Journal Club - weekly
- Case conference – weekly
- Registrar Tutorials – weekly
- Balint Group for registrars - fortnightly
- Supervision for exam preparation from senior registrars and consultants
- Psychodynamic Psychotherapy supervision and opportunities to expand into other disciplines such as CBT
- Leadership course which fulfils RANZCP requirements
- Medical Officer training – weekly
- Doctor In Training meeting - weekly
- Protected Intern teaching - weekly
- HMO workshops - fortnightly
- Internal and External opportunities are advertised daily on our intranet and all doctors have access to this

## Training Pathway

Career Progression at Bendigo Health can include intern, PGY2/3 and registrar positions. All College training requirements can be completed without leaving Bendigo Health (depending on the focus of advanced training; e.g. sub-specialising in forensic psychiatry or child and adolescent psychiatry would require advanced training to be undertaken in Melbourne). There is a dedicated local coordinator of training (CoT), a position filled by one of our consultant psychiatrists, who ensures the training needs of all JMOs are met, not just registrars. One senior registrar or advanced trainee is also the nominated “Principal Registrar” at Bendigo Mental Health Services. The Junior Medical staffing group in Mental Health is tight knit and supportive, making the experience of working or training in Psychiatry within Bendigo Health Mental Health Services one which is connected and safe. Support is available from the CoT, experienced registrars (incl the principal registrar), your supervisor, your colleagues and the Clinical Director. The Clinical Director meets with all DiTs every month to address any issues which may arise from time to time.

## Contact

Name: A/Prof Phil Tune

Title: Clinical Director

Name: Dr Katharine McAlpine

Title: Principal Registrar

Name: Nilumi Ziffer

Title: Co-ordinator of Training

Note: Information within this document is subject to change, this document was correct as of 4.04.2021



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