

“Graduate Year - What a Choice!”

Angela Casey and Gayle McKenzie
Lecturers in Nursing
School of Nursing and Midwifery
Faculty of Health Sciences
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Clinical School Model

Undergraduate Nursing

La Trobe has four Clinical Schools of Nursing and Midwifery in the Melbourne metropolitan area:

- Alfred Health (nursing only)
- Austin Health (nursing and midwifery)
- Melbourne Health (nursing and midwifery)
- Northern Health (nursing and midwifery)

The Alfred has several defined “home wards” for undergraduate nursing placements.

La Trobe undergraduate nursing students were placed in:

- Burns and Plastics
- General and Specialised Surgery
- General Medical – including infectious diseases, renal, stroke and rheumatology
- Haematology and Oncology

La Trobe Alfred Health Clinical School of Nursing

Year One:

- Placements at the end of Year One, usually in aged care or sub-acute facilities

Year Two:

- Acute placements in each semester
- Mental Health
- Community

Year Three:

- Acute placements in each semester
- Aged care (nursing the older person in the acute setting)



Completion of course

Once the Bachelor of Nursing is completed successfully, students apply to become registered through the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

In order to consolidate their skills and gain confidence in the role of a Registered Division 1 nurse, they can choose to apply for a graduate year position in a healthcare organisation.



Computer Match

Organised by the Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria on behalf of the Department of Health (PMCV)

Online matching places for:

- **Medical Internship**
- **HMO Match (Hospital Medical Officer)**
- **Basic Physician Training (BPT)**
- **Graduate Nurse and Midwifery program Match (GNMP Match)**
- **Medical Radiation Internship**

<http://www.computermatching.pmcv.com.au/>

Computer match process

The potential nursing graduates are allowed to choose four hospitals/institutions where they wish to work during their graduate year.

Based on interviews, curriculum vitae, cover letters and University transcripts, the hospitals rank their preferred choices.

The computer then matches the choices.



Question: Why do students choose particular hospitals?

Industry partners raised questions as to why students did not choose *their* hospital (after placement experiences)

Only limited anecdotal evidence from small samples – but no agreement

Lots of assumptions, but no actual evidence!

Evaluation



- A voluntary online survey was distributed via student email September 2013 (before computer match results released).

Results of Survey

- 75% of students in the final year clinical placement group completed the on-line survey
 - 92% were eligible for computer match
 - Of those 92%, 96% applied for computer match



Reasons for first choice of hospital

- Speciality
 - Mental health
 - Women's health
 - Oncology
 - Paediatrics
- Location – close to home
- Rural vs metropolitan
- Hospital's reputation
- Opportunity for more than one rotation
- Offering rotations in more acute areas
- Familiarity of hospital network related to placement
- EFT



Additional data

- 28% applied for Victorian hospitals that were not on the Computer Match system
- 17% of students also applied for interstate hospitals
 - Due to insecurity of graduate placement numbers in Victoria



Thank you

And many thanks to our fabulous 3rd year undergraduate nursing students based at the La Trobe Alfred Clinical School

