

2026 – Basic Physician Training Information Guide

Central North West Basic Physician Training Consortium

The Central North West Consortium comprises Austin Health, Bendigo Health, Echuca Regional Health, Northern Health, and Wimmera Health Care Group.

The Central North West Consortium offers comprehensive support across all years of the PREP program with all rotations accredited by the RACP. We have a long tradition of providing excellent physician training to trainees within this consortium. A training program to support trainees preparing for the written and clinical RACP examinations has been implemented across all sites within the consortium. In-house written exam lectures are held September to January each year finishing with a mock 170 question written exam.

Further information can be obtained at www.centralnorthwest.org.au

As all the hospitals in the consortium have grown significantly, there are now over 150 trainees employed over the three training years which has made rostering and local trainee support increasingly difficult. From 2020, the consortium commenced the process to separate into two recruiting bodies for recruitment into the consortium BPT program. Appointments are now aligned to Austin Health or Northern Health for the BPT/Medical stream across all three levels (BPT1-BPT3), so applicants need to apply to each Health Service independently. Rotational partnerships within the Consortium see Austin Health paired with Bendigo Health and Grampians Health Horsham.

The educational program continues unchanged across the health services; all of the preparation for the written and clinical exams continue to be shared across sites with trainees having access to tutorials and other educational activities at all sites.

Please note that these positions will be processed through the Postgraduate Medical Council Victoria (PMCV) Allocation and Placement Service (APS).

Summary of positions

Currently there are over 80 positions available at Austin Health in the Basic Physician Training (BPT) program. Trainees will be offered a wide selection of general and speciality rotations within a major teaching hospital, a smaller metro hospital (Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital campus), and two regional hospitals (Bendigo Health & Grampians Health Horsham) across the three BPT years.

Please note that successful applicants will be expected to enrol with the Royal Australian College of Physicians.

Available Rotations

BPT1 Year	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiology (AH & BH) • Gastroenterology/Liver Transplant Unit (AH) • Geriatric Medicine (AH) • Infectious Diseases (AH) • Nephrology (AH & BH) • Oncology (AH) • Respiratory Medicine (AH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endocrinology/Rheumatology (AH) • Haematology (AH) • Intensive Care (AH) • Neurology (AH) • Palliative Care (AH) • Specialty Medicine Cover/Night Duty/Relief (AH)
BPT2 & BPT3 Years	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haematology (AH) • Gastroenterology (AH) • General/Acute Medicine (AH, BH & GH) • Geriatric Medicine (AH & BH) • Infectious Diseases (AH & BH) • Liver Transplant (AH) • Neurology & Stroke Medicine (AH) • Night Duty/Relief (AH & BH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oncology (AH & BH) • Palliative Care (Cover) (AH) • Perioperative Medicine (AH & BH) • Radiation Oncology (AH) • Respiratory Medicine (AH & BH) • Spinal / Acute Rehabilitation Medicine (AH) • Nephrology (AH)

BPT – Applications and Important Information

Applications to Austin Health

All applications must be submitted via our online recruitment system. Please follow the instructions and complete all the steps. You must also attach a cover letter and a Curriculum Vitae (CV) in order to be considered for short listing.

Applications for the general BPT program can be submitted via Austin Careers Website. Applications can be addressed to Ms Sarah Meade MWU Coordinator - Medical Stream, Austin Health.

References

Minimum of two (2) reference assessments to be submitted with application (including at least one consultant)

Interviews

Applicants will be contacted for interview following the short-listing process. Contact will be made via email, and instructions on how to proceed with an interview time will be included in the email.

Selection

The selection process is based on merit and consists of the combined assessment of application documents, referee reports and interviews.

Appointments

Roles will be offered shortly after interviews have been conducted. Successful candidates will be given 2 days to accept.

Three (3) year contracts will be offered to successful candidates entering into Basic Physician Training.

Annual Rotation/Roster Allocations

Once matched/offered, appointees will get an opportunity to provide rotation preferences (by ranking available rotations within the relevant training year level), leave requests and other information before annual allocations are prepared.

All attempts will be made to accommodate special requests within the rosters i.e. annual leave for major personal events, rotation allocation based on training and career goals etc., however, please be aware not all requests can be accommodated and/or granted.

Please note that:

- During the first 6 months of the year BPT2s will be rostered to a term at Bendigo or Grampians Health. This is to enable BPT3 trainees who are sitting the written exam and clinical exam to be rostered to Austin during this exam period, and vice versa
- BPT3s, in the second 6 months of the year will be rostered to a term at Bendigo or Horsham. This is to enable BPT2s who are sitting the written exam and clinical exam to be rostered to Austin during this 6-month period prior to their exam.