

Capital and Coast District Health Board Dedicated Education Unit Philosophy

Knowing, Growing and Energising Our Workforce

The Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) model of clinical teaching and learning in Wellington and is a partnership between organisations, the education provider Massey University (Massey) and Whitireia New Zealand (Whitireia) and the Capital and Coast District Health Board. Collaboration allows practice areas to provide a more supportive clinical learning and teaching environment for students. DEU's are dedicated to supporting nursing students on clinical placement encouraging incidental and intentional learning modes, and peer teaching. The DEU is based on an Australian model and offers an alternative to the Preceptorship model to focus on student learning and curriculum integration. The following principles underpin the partnership between Massey and Whitireia School of Nursing and a DEU practice area.

Dedicated Education Unit Principles

- ❖ Shared responsibility and commitment to creating a learning partnership between education and practice.
- ❖ Cooperation in an open and cooperative manner, share information, with meaningful consultation, networking, collaboration and support as the basis for the partnership.
- ❖ Acknowledgment that each partner has different structures of accountability and each partner has the right as a separate entity to express their views independently.
- ❖ Acknowledgment partnership relies on common vision and commitment from partners at every level to achieve the collective aims. In doing so, partners recognise decisions made within one organisation, indirectly affect the other, and neither can accomplish the combined purpose alone.
- ❖ Management processes exist to monitor quality and report regularly to all partners regarding the outcomes of the partnerships.
- ❖ Partners will demonstrate their commitment to each other and their mutual vision by adequately resourcing the partnership.

Key Features of the Wellington DEU Model

- ❖ Practice area is dedicated to supporting undergraduate nursing students on clinical placement.
- ❖ Students placed in a DEU will be supported by two key roles, the Clinical Liaison Nurse(s) (CLN), an Academic Liaison Nurse (ALN).

- ❖ The CLN is an appointed regular staff member of the practice area who has an interest in promoting and facilitating clinical learning for nursing students.
- ❖ The ALN is a tenured staff member of Massey University (Massey) and Whitireia New Zealand (Whitireia) dedicated to a DEU practice area.
- ❖ All staff working within the DEU practice area support teaching and learning opportunities for nursing students e.g. Registered nurses, Enrolled Nurses, Health Care Assistants, bureau nurses, allied professionals and the medical team.
- ❖ DEU staff are flexible and responsive to student learning.
- ❖ Education and practice organisations support, value and recognise the contribution that staff make to student learning.
- ❖ Students commence clinical placement with a structured clinical orientation.
- ❖ Allocation of patient load should be commensurate with student's skill and ability.
- ❖ Patient/client allocation for CLN is taken into account by Charge Nurse Manager/ Associate Charge nurse Manager.
- ❖ CLN(s) is the consistent person (s) from DEU practice area who undertakes student clinical assessment and is a support for students and staff.
- ❖ Quality of patient/client care is paramount.
- ❖ Peer teaching and learning is encouraged and valued.
- ❖ Commitment to evidence-based practice, undertaking collaborative research, research utilisation and quality improvement.
- ❖ Staff committed to on-going professional development.
- ❖ Teaching and learning are valued.
- ❖ Relationships are open and feedback encouraged.
- ❖ Acknowledgement that 'repetition' is essential for skills acquisition.
- ❖ Learning occurs through direction and delegation.

References

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