

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
FACULTY OF MEDICINE, DENTISTRY AND HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Policy and Procedures for Elective Placements

OBJECTIVES:

This Policy details how the School of Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences deals with Elective Placements of students, following semester 10, and prior to semester 11.

ELECTIVE PLACEMENT

Following semester 10 and prior to semester 11, a 4-week elective clinical placement must be undertaken.

Co-ordinators: Clinical Deans

Pre-requisites and/or Co-requisites: Successful completion of Semester 10.

Contact: A minimum of four weeks devoted to an approved program of study. Attachments may begin during the long vacation and the timing can be varied but the placement must be completed prior to the beginning of Semester 11 clinical rotations.

Special requirements: Students must make their own arrangements for the clinical placements, which should be planned during Semesters 8 to 10. A proposal stipulating the duration of attachment, nature of the work and its location, and a proposed supervisor must be submitted through the Clinical Dean for approval by the faculty. Students should seek advice from the Clinical Dean of their teaching hospital.

Students who have been identified 'at risk' (i.e. performance in any semester 8-10 subject of less than 60%, or less than 60% on any clinical hurdle), or who have failed a rotation within a subject, or have taken leave of absence during semesters 8-10, may be required to undertake a clinical placement in general medicine and surgery as recommended by their Clinical Dean.

Description: The objective is to give students the opportunity to widen their experience and knowledge in an area or areas of interest to them. Examples of how this may be achieved include examining in greater depth some aspect of medicine, either through supervised work on a project or by close contact in clinical activities with members of the teaching staff or other members of the profession; working in situations giving greater responsibility in the care of patients than ordinarily applies in the undergraduate course; sampling the broad demands of medical practice in the community; travelling away from the parent hospital to experience health care in the country, or in interstate or overseas hospitals, experiencing possible fields of future specialisation so as to facilitate later career choice.

Generic Skills:

- self reliance
- diplomacy (as ambassadors of The University of Melbourne)
- interacting with patients from different backgrounds
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Assessment: The elective is graded pass/fail. The completion of the elective is a hurdle requirement for proceeding to semester 11. The Clinical Dean will obtain reports from both student and supervisor.

Note: See the School of Medicine office for information about loans to assist in overseas travel.

Prescribed Texts: There are no prescribed texts.