



University of  
South Australia

## Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science Radiation Therapy – Clinical Practice 1

### Information for Clinical Mentors

Thank you for supervising this **Year 2 student** from UniSA. The **Clinical Practice 1 (CP1)** placement is the first major clinical placement of the Medical Radiation Science program.

The CP1 clinical placement is 5 weeks in total, split into two blocks as follows:

- CP1A: **8 July – 19 July** (2 weeks)
- CP1B: **25 November – 13 December** (3 weeks)

Students have completed one radiation therapy-specific academic theory course so far at university (RT Studies 1). Prior to the CP1A placement, students have participated in an intensive 5 day pre-clinical workshop on campus.

Content covered in the July pre-clinical workshop included:

- Manual handling practicals: bed to couch and chair to couch transfers
- Treatment practicals: supine pelvis, breast, head and neck and thorax
- Communication workshop: simulation of patient chest setup with a “real patient” (retired RT actor), including first day talk to patient. Patient provides immediate feedback to the students, with the opportunity for reflection
- Planning practicals: prostate, rectum and palliative hip planning on Pinnacle TPS
- Treatment sheet: interpretation and documentation of simple spine treatment
- VERT: familiarisation of hand pendant controls Varian/Elekta
- Introduction to imaging: using the VERT system to complete 2D image matching
- Mock clinic: role play as patients and RTs running through a daily schedule of patients, including collecting “patients” from waiting room, setting up treatment in pairs, answering and responding to patient complications and queries

Following the completion of the CP1A clinical placement in July the students will undertake the second radiation therapy-specific theory course, RT Studies 2, before completing the final 3 weeks of CP1 placement in November/December. In 2024 it is anticipated that students will complete both placements at the same site.

#### **EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS FOR 5 WEEKS OF PLACEMENT:**

**The main objective of the placement is for students to start participating in radiation therapy procedures which give them an opportunity to apply what they have learnt. In addition, students should:**

- Complete 2 treatment competency assessments
- Complete participation records as follows: patient care and communication (1); simulation (2); and treatment ancillary equipment manufacture (1)
- Fill in clinical reports, first by student themselves with a reflection on their placement, before being completed by the mentor or clinical supervisor.
  - Formative reports are designed to give students feedback throughout their clinical placement and should be completed at the end of each week. Formative reports provide the student with feedback on their performance and the opportunity to improve during a rostered placement. They do not count toward the final grade
  - Summative reports are based on the student’s performance during the whole clinical course. To be completed by the **Clinical Supervisor in the clinical department** in collaboration with the mentors involved with that student during their placement. The summative report contributes **30% to the final mark** for the course. In 2024, a summative report will be completed at the end of CP1B only.

- Students should also show safe practice and professional behaviour as follows:

<b>Safe practice</b>	<b>Professional behaviour</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates awareness of manual handling principles in patient and staff safety</li> <li>• Demonstrates safe application of all equipment</li> <li>• Is responsible for patient and personal safety</li> <li>• Does not put other persons in the workplace at any risk</li> <li>• Demonstrates an awareness of infection control practices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly wears the student identification badge at all times</li> <li>• Wears a current Luxel at all times in accordance with the Medical Radiation Luxel policy</li> <li>• Is punctual at all times in accordance with the Medical Radiation attendance policy</li> <li>• Maintains confidentiality of staff and patient information</li> <li>• Maintains personal hygiene and dress as stated in the Medical Radiation Uniform policy</li> <li>• Behaves in a professional manner to colleagues, supervisors, patients and their families at all times</li> </ul>