

2023 – Basic Physician Training (BPT2) Information and Application Guide

Central NorthWest 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 Northern Health with Echuca Regional Health and Wimmera Health Care Group.

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 26 positions available at Austin Health and Bendigo 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 a large regional hospital (Bendigo Health) across the three BPT years.

Two-year appointments will be offered as an option to BPT2 candidates successfully matched to Austin/Bendigo Health in 2023 (note, candidates will have the option to accept either two or one-year contracts). Rosters are created to optimise the training experience and speciality time over the three years of basic physician training.

Please note that acceptance into a training program is not a pre-requisite for successful application to this stream, although the expectation is that those who are successfully appointed to this stream will enrol with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians for BPT1 recognition. Two-year contracts will only be available to those registering with RACP.

Available Rotations

BPT2 & BPT3 Years	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haematology (AH) • Gastroenterology (AH) • General/Acute Medicine (AH & BH) • 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)

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:

- For BPT2s, in the first 6 months of the year you will be rostered to a term at Bendigo 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.

BPT - Applications and Important Information

BPT positions at Austin Health are appointed to via the Allocation and Placement Service (APS) conducted by the Postgraduate Medical Council of Victoria (PMCV). As such, applications must be made to **both** the PMCV and Austin Health.

Register with PMCV for Computer Match

In order to be considered for an Austin BPT position, candidates must first meet the eligibility criteria for the HMO Match and register with the PMCV. For information on the Match process and to register, refer to the PMCV website.

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 BPT program can be submitted via Austin Careers Website. Applications can be addressed to Ms Leanne Valenti, MWU Coordinator - Medical Stream, Austin Health.

References

Please refer to the PMCV Computer Match website for information about the process for references for BPT Consortium positions. For positions within the rural pathway, references will be requested following interviews.

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 (which consists of ranking candidates through the PMCV Match) is based on merit and consists of the combined assessment of application documents, referee reports and interviews. Candidates applying for the Austin-Bendigo Regional BPT Pathway will also be assessed on their interest in the program and connection to the Bendigo region.

Appointments

Austin BPT appointments are made based on the PMCV Computer Matching results. Applicants successfully matched to Austin Health will be contacted directly via email to confirm appointment.

Important Dates to Remember (BPT2)

4 July 2022	Match opens for registration and referee nomination
29 July 2022	Closing date for PMCV Registration and Referee Nomination
31 July 2022	Closing date for applications to Austin Health Closing date for References to be completed online Last day to submit Candidate's Priority List (CPL)
August 2022	Austin Health BPT1/2 Medical Interviews
19 August 2022	Closing date for preference re-ordering/withdrawals
5 September 2022	Computer Match Results are available