



Frequently Asked Questions

Nursing and midwifery placements

What is Transforming Health?

Transforming Health is about ensuring South Australians have the best quality healthcare system into the future. We need to change the way we manage our system due to changing health needs in our hospitals, complex health conditions, an ageing population and advances in technology. This process has involved input from across the health professions, including nurses and midwives, to re-design the system. The overarching aim is a more streamlined healthcare system that provides better service for patients.

Who oversees the changes occurring under Transforming Health?

The Transforming Health Ministerial Clinical Advisory Group (MCAG) provides clinical leadership and guides the way Transforming Health is implemented. The Group will plan and recommend clinical models of care and guidelines through a clinician-led, quality focused process, for implementation at each hospital.

The MCAG is chaired by the Transforming Health Clinical Ambassador, Professor Dorothy Keefe and includes members from across the State in all aspects of healthcare, including doctors, nurses and midwives and scientific and allied health professionals. MCAG appointed the Transforming Health Education Lead, Catherine Turnbull to ensure education and training remains a key part of the transformation of SA Health.

The Transforming Health Education Expert Group reports to the MCAG on issues relating to the impact of Transforming Health on the education and training of our future health workforce.

The Minister for Health has appointed three Transforming Health Deputy Clinical Nursing and Midwifery Ambassadors (Ambassadors), following an Expression of Interest process held in May 2016. Deputy Clinical Nursing and Midwifery Ambassadors will provide expert advice on relevant aspects of Transforming Health and play a critical role in linking nurses, midwives and their practice to Transforming Health to improve patient care. Key responsibilities of the Ambassadors, who have been appointed in the Southern, Central and Northern Local Health Networks, include professional leadership, talking to staff about change and providing opportunities for nurses and midwives to become involved in the Transforming Health process in their Local Health Network (LHN).

What do the changes mean for nursing and midwifery students?

SA Health is committed to the provision of quality learning experiences for nursing and midwifery students. Changes to health care delivery, as a result of Transforming Health, open up new opportunities for clinical placement. As the health system changes to reflect the Transforming Health agenda clinical placements will reflect the array of services provided by SA Health. An example is infrastructure enhancements such as the new Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Nursing and midwifery clinical placements will continue and SA Health is committed to the provision of quality clinical placements wherever patients are situated within the health system.

Clinical placements are an important element of your preparation for entry to your profession. SA Health is working collaboratively with education providers in regards to changes to workforce practices to enable education providers to adjust curricula accordingly. To maximise existing clinical placement opportunities SA Health will provide placements 24/7.

What is the timeline for implementation?

Implementation of the main changes of Transforming Health will take effect between 2015 and 2019. Beyond this, Transforming Health will be a journey of continuous improvement applied across the healthcare system. The first priority is to improve patient access and flow, particularly to reduce the amount of time patients need to stay in hospital. As this occurs, changes within service delivery will continue to ensure clinical practice is still aligned with best evidence-based practice.

Further updates on the progress of these changes can be found transforminghealth.sa.gov.au.

Will Transforming Health impact job prospects?

Nursing and midwifery professionals contribute to shorter lengths of stay in hospital, better home based care and patient-focused care. This means there will be significant new opportunities for nursing and midwifery professionals in the future across healthcare in South Australia. Within SA Health, these opportunities will mean that staff will work across hospitals, services and/or LHNs in a flexible manner. Updates about these opportunities can be found at transforminghealth.sa.gov.au as the changes begin to roll out as part of Transforming Health.

Who manages the SA Health clinical placement positions?

LHNs are responsible for managing nursing and midwifery placements across the public hospitals and community health services in South Australia. Nursing and Midwifery placements are managed in conjunction with SA Health Better Placed using an online booking system. Placements are arranged between the LHN and the education provider using as the online system known as vicPlace.

Will there still be the same number of clinical placements occurring under Transforming Health?

The number of placements will be maintained as much as possible during the changes. There will be increased learning opportunities in country health services as Country Health SA works with metropolitan health services to reduce the need for patients to travel. Some placements may need to be flexible and there will be different learning outcomes and opportunities for innovative placements, for example interprofessional placements, new IT systems and once in a lifetime opportunities to learn about organisational change.

What are some of the site changes?

South

- > Improvements and upgrading of facilities at Flinders Medical Centre, including a new rehabilitation centre, with 55 rehabilitation beds, new gyms and a hydrotherapy pool and a dedicated orthogeriatric service.
- > Services from the Repatriation General Hospital will be integrated into other hospitals: a new \$15 million Veteran' Mental Health Precinct, named The Jamie Larcombe Centre will be established at Glenside Health Service Campus and Veterans' services will be integrated into metropolitan hospitals.

Central

- > The new Royal Adelaide Hospital will become one of the biggest and most technologically advanced hospital in Australia, with a major complex multi-trauma Emergency Department and a 24/7 stroke service, with staff and support available on-site around the clock.

North

- > Modbury Hospital will become the elective surgery centre for the north and north eastern area, carrying out around 1,800 more elective procedures including scopes a year, giving north and north-eastern residents faster access to elective surgery, with fewer delays.
- > Emergency and complex surgery will be focused to Lyell McEwin Hospital, including a comprehensive 24/7 orthopaedic trauma surgery service providing faster access to orthopaedic surgery.

Country SA

- > Development of key health services and increased use of technology will enable country patients to access specialist care and receive high quality health services close to home.

Who can I contact with further questions?

- > The Transforming Health website at transforminghealth.sa.gov.au contains further information and is updated regularly.
- > If you wish to find additional information about your profession, please contact your student information officer who should be able to direct your enquiry back to SA Health.
- > If you are currently on placement, contact your placement supervisor for further information.
- > For further information on how Transforming Health will affect placements and future opportunities, email or call Better Placed Clinical Placement Team or the Transforming Health Education Lead:
 - o BetterPlaced@sa.gov.au
 - o 08 8226 6010

For more information

Email: Health.TransformingHealth@sa.gov.au

Visit: transforminghealth.sa.gov.au



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