

## A Life Less Ordinary: Anaesthesia in the Top End



The Royal Darwin and Palmerston Hospital (RDPH) Department of Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine is keen to welcome Provisional Fellows who seek challenging medicine, sociocultural variety and a tropical lifestyle to join our team - commencing in August 2025 and onwards. Positions are available for 6 or 12 months with commencement dates of August 2025, February 2026 or August 2026.

We live and work on Larrakia land, the home of the Saltwater people. We are honoured to share, respect and care for their country, elders and the wider First Nations community.

You'll be joining a proudly diverse department. We are a team of friendly and supportive anaesthetists, with a strong balance of genders, cultures, families, singles, LGBTIQI and dynamic outside interests. The hospital bike commute is unparalleled in its coastal beauty and wildlife. Our children have excellent childcare and schooling options, and thanks to a city unburdened by traffic, we are often home in time to enjoy sunsets and evenings with our families and friends. Australia's most spectacular National Parks are in our backyard and Asia is on our doorstep - with short flights to Bali, Dili, and Singapore.

Watch & read the Specialist and trainee perspective:

<https://youtu.be/27o1W2l6D9c>

[ANZCA Darwin Video – “Beyond City Limits”](#)

[ANZCA | Beyond City Limits: Darwin](#) (article)

Royal Darwin and Palmerston Hospital is one of the most geographically isolated tertiary hospitals in Australia. It is a 370 bed hospital for over 180,000 people from a catchment of over one million square kilometres. Around 14,000 operations are performed annually between the two campuses. We cover most surgical specialties except cardiac surgery. This includes a high emergency and trauma surgery caseload, approximately 15% paediatrics and ~2200 obstetric deliveries including significant high risk cases. RDPH is the home of the National Trauma and Critical Care Response Centre, with involvement in mass casualty disasters including the Bali bombings, Ashmore Reef and East Timor crises and deployment to natural disasters in neighbouring island nations. Our patients face extraordinary challenges including a high burden of chronic disease, social

disadvantage and extreme geographic isolation. Half of the NT population live in remote communities. The NT is famously linguistically diverse, with over 100 spoken Aboriginal languages. Our Aboriginal community forms 27% of the NT population but make up 50% of hospital inpatients.

Our department runs the Acute Pain Service, the Perioperative Medicine service and the Hyperbaric Unit. Clinical support services include an 18 bed ICU with ECMO and a Level 6 NICU. Regular outreach support is provided to regional hospitals in Gove and Katherine. Out of theatre anaesthesia services include diagnostic and interventional radiology, cardiac electrophysiological and electroconvulsive therapy. Our trainee population includes ANZCA rotational and independent registrars, Provisional Fellows, GP Anaesthetic trainees, ACEM and CICM trainees, residents and medical students.

Our Provisional Fellows have the opportunity to develop necessary skills and knowledge to transition smoothly to Specialist practice. PFYs will manage independent lists, be involved in the 1<sup>st</sup> On-call roster (with Consultant supervision) and teach junior trainees. Clinical Support Time is provided with expected involvement in quality assurance projects and/or research. There are ANZCA-approved PFY roles for Simulation/Education, Perioperative Medicine, Perioperative Echocardiography and High Risk Obstetrics. There is weekly fellow teaching, and topics span interesting cases to setting up private practice.

Relocation assistance is provided and short-term subsidised hospital accommodation is available on-campus. Leave provisions are generous with 6 weeks recreation leave and 10 days Study Leave per annum, as well as the many additional Public Holidays during the beautiful Dry Season in the NT.

## Enquiries

Dr Matt Mathieson	Supervisor of Training	<a href="mailto:Matthew.Mathieson@nt.gov.au">Matthew.Mathieson@nt.gov.au</a>
-------------------	------------------------	--

We have positions available from August 2025 onwards. Apply via <https://jobs.nt.gov.au/>