

# Surgical & Perioperative Services - RBWH

## Fact Sheet

### Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) is a world class health facility, providing excellence in nursing and midwifery care to patients for 155 years.

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital (RBWH) is Queensland's largest hospital, located at the Herston site near Brisbane's CBD. With over 1,000 beds and employing more than 9,000 staff, we represent one of Australia's most dynamic nursing and midwifery workforces.

Whether starting your nursing or midwifery career, looking to make a difference or seeking an exciting new challenge, we offer something for everyone.

[Nursing and Midwifery careers | Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital \(health.qld.gov.au\)](https://health.qld.gov.au)



### Surgical & Perioperative Services

Surgical and Perioperative Services provides comprehensive services to inpatients and outpatients within the RBWH. It provides quaternary, tertiary, and secondary referral services throughout Queensland and surrounding areas. The service is comprised of 24 operating suites, 9 inpatient wards, a trauma service and affiliated outpatient departments across a range of surgical specialties.

*Our Surgical and Perioperative vision is to create a workplace where innovation thrives, and where we work towards a shared vision of success while providing the best care for our patients. A place where everyone genuinely cares for each other, feels recognised, and supported.*

Kaylene Woollett  
Nursing Director, Surgical and Perioperative Services

### 4C – Professor Stuart Pegg Adult Burns Centre (4C)

The Professor Stuart Pegg Adult Burns unit is an 18-bed Burns & Multidisciplinary chronic pain unit that provides surgical services for all over Queensland, northern NSW, Northern Territory & Pacific Islands. There is a multidisciplinary focus with dedicated physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, speech therapists and social workers.

**Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:**

- Burns
  - Scald
  - Electrical
  - Flame
  - Chemical
- Chronic pain patients requiring in-patient treatment.

**Common Nursing procedures include:**

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Assessment
- Comprehensive Burns Assessment
- Burns management inc.
  - Fluid resuscitation
  - Burns dressings & Baths
- Tracheostomy Management
- Pain management, education & assessment

## 6A North – Surgical Flex-bed Unit

6AN is a Surgical Flex-bed unit funded to 12 beds and can flex up to 16 beds. The unit operates 24hrs 7 days a week and takes emergency and elective admission patients from all surgical specialties. The nursing team work within patient allocations and in a care partnership model.

**Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:**

- Vascular
- General Surgical
- Orthopaedic
- Plastics
- Ophthalmology
- Urology
- Neurosurgery

**Common Nursing procedures include:**

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Assessment
- Neurological, Neurovascular & Spinal assessments
- Pain management
- Wound care inc.
  - NPWT
- Surgical Drain Management

## 7A South – Orthopaedic Trauma

7AS is a dedicated 30 bed Orthopaedic / Trauma ward that specialises in multi trauma and complex elective patients. There is a multidisciplinary focus with dedicated physiotherapists, occupational therapists and social worker. Ward 7AS has a 4 bed Complex Care Trauma Bay for acute multi trauma patients.

**Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:**

- Fractures
- Spinal Injuries
- Internal & External fixation devices
- Splints
- Traction
- Wounds

**Common Nursing procedures include:**

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Assessment
- Neurovascular & Spinal Assessment
- Wound care inc.
  - NPWT
- Surgical Drain Management
- Leg Traction
- Cast Care
- Polar Care Management
- Pain Management

## 8A South – Neurosurgery

8AS is a 30 bed Neurosurgical ward providing comprehensive neurosurgical services for elective and emergency patients with neurological, spinal and peripheral nerve conditions. It has a 4 bed Close Observation Bay (COB) for acute Neurosurgical patients transferred from ICU or Surgery. There is a multidisciplinary focus with dedicated physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dieticians, speech therapists and social workers.

**Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:**

- Traumatic head injuries
- Cerebral haemorrhages resulting from ruptured aneurysms and arteriovenous malformations.
- Hydrocephalus requiring shunts.
- Brain tumours
- Neurological conditions requiring invasive investigations.

- Vertebral injuries
- Chronic intractable pain

**Common Nursing procedures include:**

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Assessment
- Neurological & Spinal Assessment
- Tracheostomy Management
- EVD Management
- Spinal Drain Management

## 8A North – Plastics, ENT, Maxillofacial & Ophthalmology

We are a 30-bed surgical ward with specialities Plastic Reconstructive Surgery, ENT (Head and Neck), Maxillofacial, and Ophthalmology. There is a multidisciplinary focus with dedicated physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, speech therapists and social workers.

### Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:

- Skin Grafts & Flaps
- Facial Trauma
- Ophthalmic Trauma
- Excision of lesion
- Head & Neck cancer

### Common Nursing procedures include:

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Care
- Wound care (Acute & Chronic) inc.
  - NPWT
  - Leech Therapy
- Surgical Drain Management
- Tracheostomy Management
- Enteral feeding / tube management
- Pain Management

## 8B South – Urology & Short Stay Surgical

8BS is a 30-bed acute surgical unit. The ward specialises in both Urology and Surgical Short stay inpatients including both elective and acute admissions of Orthopaedic surgery, General surgery, Plastic surgery, ENT, Maxillofacial Surgery, Ophthalmology, Vascular Surgery and Neurosurgery. As a result, can have a high turnover of patients.

### Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:

- Robotic surgery inc.
  - Prostatectomy
  - Cystectomy
  - Nephrectomy and Pyeloplasty,
  - Urethral Reconstructive Surgery
  - Laparoscopic Kidney Surgery
- Endo-Urology Service
- Urogynecology surgery
- Urological Trauma

### Common Nursing procedures include:

- Elective & acute mixed surgical specialties
- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Care
- Stoma Management
- Bladder irrigation
- Wound care (Acute & Chronic)
- Surgical Drain Management
- Neurological, Neurovascular & Spinal assessments

## 8B North – Vascular Surgery

The Vascular Ward is a 30-bed surgical service that provides surgical services for Northern Brisbane, the Sunshine Coast and as far north as Rockhampton. We also receive tertiary referrals throughout Queensland and northern New South Wales. There is a multidisciplinary focus with dedicated physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, speech therapists and social workers.

### Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:

- Venous / Arterial leg ulcers
- Diabetic foot ulcers
- Carotid endarterectomy
- Limb amputation
- AAA
- Ischemic limbs
- Arterial occlusions and injuries.

### Common Nursing procedures include:

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Assessment
- Comprehensive Vascular Assessment
- Wound care (Acute & Chronic) inc.
  - NPWT
  - Compression therapy
- Surgical Drain Management
- Thrombolytic treatment & management

## 9A South – General Surgery, Trauma, Thoracic & Hepatobiliary

9AS is a 30-bed acute surgical unit. The ward specialises in both Upper Gastrointestinal & Thoracic Surgery. The unit also has a dedicated trauma card which supports the allocation of 8 Trauma patients. There is a multidisciplinary focus with dedicated physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, speech therapists and social workers.

**Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:**

- General Surgery
- Hepato-biliary
- Pancreatic
- Thoracic
- Liver conditions
- Upper Gastrointestinal
- Bariatric surgery
- Chest Trauma

**Common Nursing procedures include:**

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Care
- Comprehensive Gastrointestinal & Respiratory assessments
- Wound care (Acute & Chronic)
- Surgical Drain Management inc.
  - Intercostal Catheters
  - Pigtail drain
  - Bellovac drain
- Ascitic Tap

## 9A North – General Surgery & Colorectal

9AN is a 30-bed general surgical unit. The ward specialises in General Surgery, Colorectal Surgery, Endocrine Surgery & Gastroenterological conditions & procedures. There is a multidisciplinary focus with dedicated physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, speech therapists and social workers.

**Clinical presentations include both elective and acute admissions of:**

- General Surgery
- Colorectal Surgery
- Endocrine Surgery
- Gastroenterological Conditions & Procedures

**Common Nursing procedures include:**

- Pre/Post Operative Surgical Care

- Comprehensive Gastrointestinal assessments
- Wound care (Acute & Chronic)
- Surgical Drain Management inc.
  - Pigtail drain
  - Bellovac drain
- Bowel Prep
- Stoma management
- TPN/Enteral nutrition management
- Gastrostomy management

## Outpatient Services

Outpatient services provides patients with public Outpatient care that support the activities of RBWH. Outpatient Department (OPD) Clinics provide assessment and management of conditions which require specialist opinion above those available within the primary health care setting. The OPD also offers Pre-Admission Clinic (PAC) for patients who require “face to face”, telehealth or phone preoperative assessment and education prior to undergoing surgery or endoscopic procedures. The Outpatient Services include Orthopaedic, Urology, Ear Nose and Throat, Plastics, maxillofacial and Vascular specialities.

## Perioperative Services

The perioperative service is a 24-hour, 7 day a week service, providing secondary, tertiary and quaternary care.

## Operating Theatre

The service line includes 24 operating theatres: 18 main operating theatres, 4 women’s gynaecology and obstetrics theatres and 2 minor procedure theatres. Working in this unit allows staff to upskill within a multi-disciplinary team and

in multiple specialities. The specialities covered include trauma services, robotic surgery, burns, ENT, general, neurosurgery, orthopaedic, urology, ophthalmology, plastic and reconstructive, vascular, and oral and maxillofacial.

### **Post Anaesthetic Care Unit (PACU)**

PACU has capacity for 30 bays, equipped to support high dependency, monitored care within ACORN and ANZCA standards. Working in PACU provides an opportunity to work within a high acuity area with a dynamic and supportive team.

### **Surgical Day Care Unit (SDCU) & 23hr Unit**

The SDCU coordinates and delivers the clinical assessment, preparation and management of patients from all surgical specialities over a variety of settings within the perioperative environment. Nursing staff in SDCU enjoy working in a variety of areas including Day of Surgery Admissions, a 23-hour ward, Holding Bay, and a Third Stage Recovery and Discharge unit.

### **Sterile Processing Centre (SPC)**

SPC is the central sterilising department for the RBWH. It is a specialist unit providing reprocessing services for reusable medical devices. The service provided includes disinfection, inspection, assembly, packaging, sterilisation, storage and distribution of reusable medical devices. All staff are required to have a Certificate III in Sterilisation. On a daily basis staff rotate through multiple areas within the unit, providing a diverse range of duties. SPC has opportunities for Registered Nurses and Assistants In Nursing.

### **Clinical Consumables Group (CCG)**

CCG ensures material resources are available for use and the operating theatres are cleaned and restocked. Working in CCG staff are trained in inventory control, stock management, procurement, loan set management and sterile set ups. CCG has opportunities for Registered Nurses and Assistants In Nursing.

### **Perioperative Asset Management (PAM)**

The PAM team manage perioperative assets and environment, they monitor and maintain the repair and replacement of instruments and equipment within perioperative services. The team consists of Nurse Manager, Registered Nurse and an Assistant in Nursing.

### **Acute Pain Management Services (APMS)**

The APMS is a multidisciplinary team consisting of anaesthetists, a Clinical Nurse Consultant and Clinical Nurses. The team provide specialised acute pain management including epidural analgesia, regional analgesia and Patient Controlled Intravenous Analgesia. Within the team there is a Nurse Practitioner who manages subacute pain as a transition between acute and persistent pain.