

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In collaboration with universities, teaching hospitals and specialist private clinics, the HealthCert clinical attachments program provides GPs with a comprehensive range of medical, surgical and clinical support training. Participants will have the unique opportunity to enhance their knowledge of procedures in dedicated treatment facilities by observing and questioning experts – this may include all aspects of treatment, including initial consultations and patient treatment options as well as surgical procedures, use of equipment and patient follow-ups.

LOCATION



Mackay Scalpel Free Vasectomy Clinic is located in the Mackay Specialist Day Hospital and is dedicated to providing men with Scalpel Free Vasectomy procedures (SFV). The facility is a professional one-stop clinic where consultations and procedures are undertaken on the same day for patient convenience.

Your supervisor will be Dr Raj Selvarajan (MBBS, MRCS(Ed), MRCGP, FRACGP). Dr Selvarajan undertook postgraduate education in the UK. He is trained in specialised surgical fields, including plastic surgery, and is a member of the Royal College of General Practitioners of UK. Specialising in non-scalpel vasectomies, he established three No Scalpel Vasectomy Clinics in the UK and the Scalpel Free Vasectomy clinics in Mackay and Brisbane, Australia.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

The program can be tailored individually to the participant's special interests and activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Familiarisation with vasectomy clinic staff and roles (e.g. vasectomy nurse assistants and reception staff)
- Pre-operative consultations and counselling sessions
- Preparation of operating room and kits needed for the procedure
- Hand washing and infection control procedures
- Local anaesthetic vasectomy procedures
- Post-operative consultation
- Procedures for follow-up of results and audit
- Business side of a vasectomy clinic



The clinical attachment program is aimed at qualified general practitioners wishing to develop their procedural skill set and who have completed the HealthCert clinical procedures courses (or equivalent).

PROGRAM DELIVERY

Medical professionals can apply for a one-day program where they will experience first-hand the day-to-day operations and interactions of a leading medical practice. Participants will further develop their skills by observing experienced physicians, participating in patient consultations and asking questions on the provided services and patient care.





Dr Raj Selvarajan performing a non-scalpel vasectomy.

Non-scalpel vasectomy procedure

Vasectomy is a procedure which makes men infertile by producing a block to sperm movement from the testicles and is the most efficient form of contraception currently available. In traditional vasectomy, two incisions (cuts) are made in the scrotum and through these each vas is located, cut and both ends tied. The skin wounds are closed with stitches.

Scalpel Free Vasectomy (SFV) is a very simple procedure and takes only 10-20 minutes. The clinic uses a special 'no sting' local anaesthetic which is injected into the skin in the front of the scrotum. A single small 2-4mm opening is made in the centre of the scrotum below the penis without a blade ("Scalpel Free technique"). The vas tubes are located and a part of the tube is removed and ends sealed without any clips or stitches. Overall, there is very little discomfort and recovery is faster compared to other techniques.

IMPORTANT DATES AND PROGRAM FEES

Medical professionals must submit their application with their preferred dates at least one month prior to the program commencement date. HealthCert will contact the facility and arrange for the placement of the applicant at the host facility. Participants must commence the program at the latest six months after their application has been accepted.

One-day program: \$1,495

TRAVEL & STAY

Participants are expected to independently organise and fund their travel and accommodation throughout the duration of the program. The hosting facility will provide day time activities from 9am to 5pm during weekdays only.

CPD POINTS AND CERTIFICATION

For members of the RACGP who wish to qualify for Category 1 CPD points certain records must be kept and session summaries completed. These activities are considered as a "Supervised Clinical Attachment" activity which qualify for 40 Category 1 points. This is a self-submitted activity. HealthCert will provide a "Certificate of Clinical Attachment" to confirm completion of the activity.

The structured clinical attachment has provided an excellent first-hand experience. It is a well-organised program which has afforded me good practical experience in this expanding area of medical practice. Thoroughly recommended.

- Dr Andrew McIntosh, Vic -



🍤 1300 85 66 95 | info@healthcert.com | www.healthcert.com.au

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