# T3.8.a [Name of Organisation]

## Whole-of-System Student Clinical Placement (WoSSP) policy

## Policy title: Whole-of-system student clinical placements

Adapt as needed for your health service policy framework and WoSSP clinical placement approach

## Purpose and scope

The purpose of this policy is to:

* establish the framework that will guide collaborative planning and implementation of the WoSSP program within the [insert clinical placement provider name].

## Definitions

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| --- | --- |
| clinical placement providers | any organisation that provides clinical placements to health professional students |
| health education providers | higher education institutions providing professional entry medical, nursing and allied health courses |

## Principles

The WoSSP program provides opportunities for professional entry students from medicine, nursing allied health disciplines to work in interprofessional teams as a core part of their clinical placements in the [insert local government area].

With a focus on chronic and complex healthcare, students interact with allocated patients in primary healthcare settings and the patient’s own home. Students also conduct focused health service visits in the local community.

The WoSSP program is specifically designed for experienced students in the later stages of their professional entry studies (e.g. third year nursing students, fourth year medical students etc.)

It is expected that WoSSP group learning activities will count towards student clinical placement hours.

The aims of the WoSSP program are to:

* maximise clinical placement opportunities for students in smaller rural health services within the [insert local government area]
* provide opportunities for medicine, nursing and allied health students to work interprofessionally with students from other health disciplines
* enable students to gain a deeper appreciation of the lived experience of people with chronic or complex healthcare needs
* provide opportunities for students to engage with the patient journey including patient home visits and involvement in patient healthcare consultations
* introduce students to real world healthcare challenges and population health needs through direct engagement with patients and primary healthcare services
* build on existing local community partnerships, supervision models and health professional networks to strengthen clinical education activities and health service provision in the [insert local government area]
* develop mechanisms to foster ongoing community engagement and support for whole-of-system placements at the local, regional and state levels.

## Responsibilities

Adapt as needed

### *[Insert clinical placement provider]*

[Insert clinical placement provider name] delivers a diverse range of inpatient, outpatient and outreach services to the [insert local government area]. This includes providing medical, surgical, midwifery, rehabilitation, hostel, nursing home and allied health services. Assessment and rehabilitation services are also provided to the neighbouring Shires of [insert local government areas if applicable].

[Insert clinical placement provider name] will liaise with [health educator provider partners] to :

* plan and implement whole-of-system student placement opportunities including establishing shared clinical placement governance structures; preparing student study guides, learning materials; and designing patient journey curriculum activities
* develop and communicate the policies and procedures that underpin student clinical placements
* provide staff undertaking student supervision with appropriate training
* administer, implement and evaluate student clinical placements
* consider evaluation and feedback from students and staff as an important aspect of reviewing the WoSSP program
* develop mechanisms to foster community engagement and support for local/regional clinical placements.

### [Insert health education provider names]

[Insert a brief description of the health education providers and health discipline groups involved in the WoSSP program]

[Insert health education provider names] will liaise with [insert clinical placement provider name] to:

* plan and implement whole-of-system student placement opportunities including establishing shared clinical placement governance structures; preparing student study guides, learning materials; and designing patient journey curriculum activities
* contribute to the administrative planning, teaching and evaluation of the WoSSP program
* consider evaluation and feedback from students and staff as an important aspect of reviewing the WoSSP program
* develop mechanisms to foster community engagement and support for local/regional clinical placements.

### Clinical placement supervisors

Clinical supervisors assume overall responsibility for the day-to-day discipline-specific supervision of students in the health service setting, including monitoring student learning outcomes and liaising with academic program coordinators.

### WoSSP clinical educator

The WoSSP clinical educator is responsible for educational planning and coordination of the WoSSP program including:

* direct teaching and academic support of students during their WoSSP group learning days
* planning and conducting patient journey activities and community health service visits
* liaising with WoSSP clinical placement partners, clinical placement supervisors and academic discipline coordinators to develop and implement WoSSP clinical placement activities.

### [Health service program area

### that will provide the platform and supports for WoSSP patient journey activities e.g. HARP]

[Health service department/program coordinator] is responsible for:

* preselecting and recruiting appropriate patients for WoSSP patient journey activities (with appropriate patient consent)
* implementing WoSSP patient journey administration and data management systems (including procedures for student/client handover on conclusion of the WoSSP program).

### General practices

Assume overall responsibility for medical students undertaking clinical placements in locally-based general practices.

GP supervisors are responsible for:

* day-to-day, discipline-specific supervision of medical students, including monitoring the expected learning outcomes and liaising with relevant academic staff
* supervising WoSSP student teams involved in shared consultations with allocated patients in the general practice setting.

GP practice managers are responsible for:

* liaising with the WoSSP clinical educator and health service administration staff to plan GP appointments for patients invol*v*ed in WoSSP patient journey activities.

## Related policies and procedures

For example:

* Human resource department procedures
* Occupational health and safety procedures
* Placement allocation and reporting procedures
* Indemnity agreements
* Student placement orientation
* Student access to information and communication technology
* Clinical placement evaluation procedures
* Resolution of complaints and disputes

## WoSSP policies and procedures

* Student code of conduct
* Safety during patient/client home and service visits procedure
* Patient/client selection policy
* Patient/client home visits and appointments procedure
* Patient/client handover procedure

## Review

[Insert name of organiser] will arrange an annual meeting to review this policy and related documents about WoSSP placements. The purpose of the annual review is to:

* review the policy framework including, for example, efficacy of the implementation, use of staff time and resources
* provide a forum to consider issues affecting the success of or barriers to student placements
* consider patient, student and staff feedback
* consider any changes to course requirements.

## Compliance

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| --- | --- |
| Author: | [WoSSP Steering Group] |
| Last review date: |  |
| Policy number: |  |
| Distribution: | [insert staff distribution list] |
| Approved by: | [Manager] |
| Approval date: | [Date] |