

"Communication is at the heart of nursing. The opportunity to work with patients while studying is invaluable. We are able to learn how to communicate effectively with people from all walks of life"

– Nursing Student

"It feels good knowing that I am contributing to the knowledge of the new generation of health care providers"

– Patient.

"I learn so much when working with patients. Time spent with patients is such an important part of our learning and becoming a real therapist"

– Occupational Therapy Student

"We have a teaching hospital and I like to support that"

– Patient

"As medical students it is the experiences of our patients that truly bring our education to life. By working with patients and their whānau, we gain valuable insights that no textbook can offer, enabling us to become compassionate caring doctors and advocates for our future patients"

– Medical Student

Thanks for supporting our health professionals of the future.

Some of the students you might meet during your stay include:

- Dietetics students
- Medical students
- Medical Imaging Technicians students
- Midwifery students
- Nursing students
- Occupational Therapy students
- Pharmacy students
- Physiotherapy students
- Radiation Therapy students
- Speech Language Therapy students.

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Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Students at Health New Zealand Hospitals

What does this mean for me?



Welcome to your local teaching hospital

Many different health professionals come to work in this hospital every day, including doctors, nurses, midwives, and allied health staff.

Students are an important part of this hospital's healthcare team and get valuable on-the-job training.

It's up to you...

If it is proposed that students are to be involved in your care, you will be asked for your permission for students to help care for you.

Please be assured:

- Students are bound by the same privacy principles as Health New Zealand staff.
- Students are supervised, with their work checked, by registered professional staff.

Things to keep in mind during your stay:

- Your comfort, dignity and privacy come first.
- You have the right to expect safe, quality care, to be treated respectfully and participate in care decisions under the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights.

- This is a teaching hospital and students are an important part of our healthcare team.
- Please ask questions and raise any concerns you have along the way. We are here to listen.

Examples of how students may be involved in your care:

- Assessing your health concerns.
- Medical student stitching a wound or assisting the surgical team in the operating room.
- Midwifery student monitoring a person during labour.
- Pharmacy student interviewing you to write a list of the medicines you take at home.
- In some circumstances (e.g. emergencies, staff shortages) a student may be required to assist in your care and this will be discussed with you.

What happens if I say yes?

Each time when a new student meets you, you have the right to decide if they can participate in your care.

Your consent is not a blanket consent – you can choose what level of involvement you are comfortable with.

You can withdraw your consent at any time.

Some aspects of healthcare can be challenging. For example, you might need to

have an examination or procedure of a more personal nature.

What happens if I say no?

Student practical placement is an important part of training, but above all else, we want you to feel safe and comfortable.

Your decision will not disadvantage you.

You can change your mind too, if you later decide to have students help care for you.

Questions to ask your care team:

- What are the risks to having a student involved in my care?
- What are the benefits to having a student involved in my care?
- Can I provide feedback to the student?

