

RMIP Newsletter - February 2014

Dunedin Residential

Twenty students have just completed a very busy two weeks residential in Dunedin. Five students are from the University Wellington school, fourteen from the University of Canterbury school and one from the Dunedin School of Medicine.



The first week was shared with the Dunedin fifth year class on their Emergency Medicine module. During this week the Department of Anatomy with Prof Theis and members of the orthopaedic and rheumatology services spent a half day reviewing some joint injury scenarios and relating them to dissected joints demonstrating the anatomy of the injured tissues.

Mr Mike Hunter confronted the students with a series of case based sessions that they worked up around aspects of emergency management of patients such as those who are unconscious, shocked, head injured, fitting, unable to breathe, experiencing abnormal heart rhythms. He was supported in this by personnel from cardiology, pharmacology, neurosurgery, and pathology. He took sessions on patient care at an accident scene, some physiology associated with shock and its management. We took the opportunity of a gap in the first week programme to introduce the students to the RMIP and do some housekeeping.

The second week was spent in the Department of General Practice and Rural Health. It was full on, with sessions to introduce the students to MedTech conducted by Kylie Tucker. MedTech is the most commonly used practice management software in general practice and the students have a training database on their laptops which are loaned by the university for the year.



Branko Sijnja and Prof Jim Reid guided them through a session on prescribing safely and Katharine Wallis took them for some discussion on ethical issues based around some very difficult but realistic cases. The other part of the week was involved with an introduction and revision on clinical aspect of some of the disciplines that they will encounter in their experience in general practice and rural hospitals. This is with a particular emphasis on how to assess the patients with illness/injury such as In ENT (Dean Ruske), ophthalmology (Gordon Sanderson and Logan Mitchell), orthopaedics (Mike Chin and Chris Birks), rheumatology (John Highton), psychological medicine (John Canton), paediatrics (Roland Broadbent), gynaecology with vaginal bleeding (Helen Paterson), sexual transmitted diseases (Jill McIlraith) and contraception (Dawn Miller).

The students were introduced to our video conferencing system, the ViPr, by Steve Smith from Mobile Surgical Services. The students met with the coordinators mid-week and then the whole class, coordinators and administrators went out for a pleasant meal in the evening at Golden Harvest Restaurant. The highlight of the week was this meeting with the coordinators and the students got a sense of getting closer to where they were going and what they were really here for.

The exhausted twenty left to travel to their teaching centre on Friday to begin the process of orientation in their areas where they start the following Monday.

The students were able to assess their learning styles and were helped with their understanding of this under the guidance of Chris Skellett. The learning styles have been passed onto the coordinators in each region to help with their learning in the rural regions.



RMIP Dinner

