



MEDS12007 Medical Sonography Clinical Unit 1

Term 3 - 2023

Profile information current as at 17/07/2025 02:59 pm

All details in this unit profile for MEDS12007 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This clinical unit will provide you with opportunities to apply and integrate theoretical and practical knowledge, skills and professional behaviour in the clinical environment, independently and under the supervision of qualified professionals. The practical focus in this unit includes the completion of an ultrasound scan to 'Novice' - (student) Level 1 competence as described by the Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers adopted by the Australasian Sonographers Association and the Australian Sonographer Accreditation Register. You will learn to analyse images and solve problems, developing critical thinking and clinical reasoning skills. You will demonstrate reflective practice to expand your core knowledge and experience. You will also behave professionally using interpersonal skills relevant to sonographic practice in accordance with CQUniversity graduate attributes and Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry accreditation requirements. You are expected to critically reflect on your own performance and exhibit a high level of safe patient care. Critical appraisal of performance will enable you to develop your own patient care, professional, technical and analytical skills in a work setting.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 8

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

MEDS12002 Abdominal Ultrasound Prerequisite And MEDS12003 Superficial Structures in Ultrasound Prerequisite And MEDS12001 Physics of Ultrasound Prerequisite And MEDS12004 Sonography Skills Development 1, which must have been successfully completed within the last twelve months. Should this time limit have elapsed the student must successfully complete a skills / clinical knowledge revision and assessment as determined by the discipline lead or designate. Prerequisite

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 3 - 2023

- Mixed Mode

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Professional Practice Placement**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

2. **Practical Assessment**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

3. **Direct observation of procedural skills (DOPs)**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

4. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

Assessment Grading

This is a pass/fail (non-graded) unit. To pass the unit, you must pass all of the individual assessment tasks shown in the table above.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

Attendance at, and participation in tutorials was low, which reduces learning potential.

Recommendation

Consider having mandatory attendance and contributing to tutorials in some manner a requirement to improve engagement.

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

Students appreciated the resources provided and indicated they were useful to their learning.

Recommendation

Consider linking assessment to tutorial contributions to improve engagement and learning potential.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Perform sonographic examination under supervision to meet the Competency Standards for Level 1 - Novice (Student).
2. Evaluate sonographic findings and describe them in simple terms to solve straightforward diagnostic problems.
3. Display professional behavior, teamwork and communication skills consistent with safe sonographic practice in accordance with CQUniversity graduate attributes, the Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers, and Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry accreditation requirements.
4. Critically reflect upon own professional practice, sonographer psychomotor skills, sonographic knowledge, teamwork, communication skills and safe clinical practice.

Australasian Competency Standards for Entry Level Sonographers

Unit 1 - 5

Unit 6, 7 and 12

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

 N/A Level	 Introductory Level	 Intermediate Level	 Graduate Level	 Professional Level	 Advanced Level
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Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Professional Practice Placement - 0%			•	
2 - Practical Assessment - 0%	•	•	•	
3 - Direct observation of procedural skills (DOPs) - 0%	•			•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Communication	•	•	•	•
2 - Problem Solving	•	•	•	•
3 - Critical Thinking		•	•	•
4 - Information Literacy		•	•	•
5 - Team Work		•		•
6 - Information Technology Competence	•		•	•
7 - Cross Cultural Competence	•		•	•
8 - Ethical practice			•	•
9 - Social Innovation				
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures				

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Vancouver](#)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Andrea Chandrarajan Unit Coordinator
a.chandrarajan@cqu.edu.au

Deanne Chester Unit Coordinator
d.chester@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Infection Control and Pre-Clinical Lab Days - 06 Nov 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to infection control. 1. Revise appropriate infection control techniques and requirements for an ultrasound setting. 2. How does COVID-19 affect an ultrasound department?		Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study. Pre-clinical placement lab days to simulate what life will be like on placement.

Abdomen Revision: Aorta, Abdominal Vascular Structures and Pancreas - 13 Nov 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of the upper abdomen. Revise "Upper Abdominal Ultrasound - Aorta and Pancreas" from MEDS12002, MEDS12004 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.		Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study. Tutorial 16/11 at 7 PM AEST.

Abdomen Revision: Gallbladder and Biliary System - 20 Nov 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of upper abdomen.
Revise "Upper Abdominal Ultrasound - Gallbladder and Biliary System" from MEDS12002, MEDS12004 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.

Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study.

Abdomen Revision: Liver and Spleen - 27 Nov 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of upper abdomen. Revise "Upper Abdominal Ultrasound - Liver and Spleen" from MEDS12002, MEDS12004 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.		Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study. Tutorial 30/11 at 7 PM AEST.

Abdomen Revision: Urinary Tract - 11 Dec 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of upper abdomen. Revise "Upper Abdominal Ultrasound - Kidneys and Urinary Tract System" from MEDS12002, MEDS12004 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.		Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study. Tutorial 14/12 at 7 PM AEST.

Female Pelvis Revision - 18 Dec 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of female pelvis. Revise "Female Pelvis - Uterus and Ovaries" from MEDS12006, MEDS12004 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.		Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study.

Obstetrics Revision - 02 Jan 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of the female pelvis, specifically in relation to obstetrics. Revise "Obstetrics within Ultrasound" from MEDS12006 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.		Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study. Tutorial 4/1 at 7 PM AEST.

Scrotum and Breast Revision - 08 Jan 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of the scrotum and breast. Revise ultrasound of the scrotum and breast from MEDS12003 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.		Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study.

Thyroid Revision - 15 Jan 2024

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
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Recommended revision of knowledge and skills related to sonography of the thyroid.

Revise "Ultrasound of the Thyroid and Neck" from MEDS12003 and relevant anatomy from Moodle and textbooks.

Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study. Tutorial 18/1 at 7 PM AEST.

Clinical Decision Making - 22 Jan 2024

Module/Topic

Chapter

Events and Submissions/Topic

Please refer to Moodle for detailed assessment due dates and tutorial information. This clinical unit occurs outside of standard University term dates as clinical placement will take place during this unit of study. Tutorial 1/2 at 7 PM AEST.

Term Specific Information

The unit coordinator for this unit is **Andrea Chandrarajan**, and she can be contacted via email at **a.chandrarajan@cqu.edu.au** or phone 07 4940 7457 on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday.

It is important to check the Moodle unit forums (specifically the News Forum) and your student email regularly to be aware of unit updates. Please ensure that your email correspondence is via your CQU student email.

The clinical placement team are an integral part of this unit as they coordinate placement allocations for this course. They are **Julie Cahill** (Brisbane), **Ovini Wanigasekera** (Perth), **Gina Zhang** (Sydney), **Antony Egan** (Melbourne), **Michele Whealy** (Industry Partnerships Manager), and the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) officer **Vanessa Henderson**. The clinical placement team contact details are on the unit Moodle site.

This clinical unit builds on the sonographic knowledge, skills and attributes developed during MEDS12002, MEDS12003, MEDS12004 and MEDS12006.

You will be required to engage in medical diagnostic ultrasound examinations to begin progress towards the standards of the 'Australasian Sonographers Association Competency Guidelines for Graduate Entry-Level Sonographer'. You will evaluate findings to formulate a differential diagnosis and suggest further investigations where appropriate. You will engage with your clinical supervisor in critical appraisal with regards to professional behaviour and applying appropriate professional and interpersonal skills to sonographer practice. This is in accordance with Central Queensland University (CQUniversity) graduate attributes and requirements for external professional accreditation by Australian Sonographers Accreditation Registry (ASAR).

There are no specified texts for this unit however, you are expected to revise previous unit content related to abdominal ultrasound, obstetrics/gynaecological ultrasound and ultrasound of small parts to enhance your knowledge and understanding during this clinical unit.

There will be in-person pre-clinical lab preparation sessions. Please see Moodle for details.

You will be required to attend a 5-week clinical placement block, with a **minimum** requirement of 200 hours. The placement allocation and dates may be subject to change depending on the availability of industry partners to train. You will be allocated a specific clinical facility (or facilities) to attend for the duration of your placement and you must attend the allocated clinical placement for the entirety of each working day. Please note if a public holiday happens to fall during your clinical placement, this can be entered as 8 hours on your clinical attendance form and counted as a full day of placement. Please be aware that any absences **MUST** be reported to the **site supervisor** and the **unit coordinator** as soon as possible. Medical certificates are required for any sick leave taken. Any hours lost due to absences (other than public holidays) must be made up.

If there have been changes to placement end dates and hence, a requirement to have an extension for assessments, please advise the unit coordinator.

Students will require regular internet access, word processing and document scanning technology to complete assessment requirements. Most clinical sites do not provide computer and internet access hence, it is your responsibility to provide all the required tools to complete assessments. Please advise the unit coordinator if you need to extend your placement end date in order to complete your unit requirements. If you are experiencing difficulty meeting unit assessment requirements, apply for extension via the unit Moodle site.

Please note this important information from the University Assessment of Coursework Procedures 4.36: "This is a non-graded (pass/fail) course and all coursework must be submitted by the due date, as there is no opportunity to apply for a 5% penalty due to the pass/fail nature of the assessment tasks. Any student who fails any assessment in a pass/fail subject component will be deemed to have failed that subject, unless the unit profile includes provision for the student to reattempt a failed assessment task and the student passes the re-attempted assessment." Again, if there have been changes to placement start and end dates, please advise the unit coordinator.

This unit is designed to compliment and run concurrently to your clinical placement. Please note that the timeline of this unit may not align perfectly with the academic calendar. The unit will align more accurately with the placement calendar for those on conventional placement dates. There will be many students on unconventional placement dates and the due dates will be adjusted accordingly.

Please note that we will be running pre-clinical placement practical days on campus before the official start date of the trimester - details applicable to your campus can be found on Moodle.

The **minimum** required hours for CG91 are **2000**. This is a **minimum not a maximum** and some students may require longer clinical placement hours to reach graduate level competency. Students may accumulate hours outside of the official clinical placement blocks. Any hours must be documented on an "outside clinical placement" document available on the Moodle unit site. These hours are supernumerary to the minimum required and can only be submitted in circumstances where there is an unexpected shortfall of clinical placement hours because of exceptional circumstances. Submission and acceptance of hours is at the discretion of the unit coordinator and the Head of Course. You must be either employed by the clinical site or engaged in a learning capacity which means you are supernumerary to the workplace requirements.

Please note: All hours must be verified (signed) by an ASAR accredited sonographer or radiologist, sonologist, obstetrician, vascular surgeon or physician with appropriate ultrasound qualifications. Details of either your insurance or employment must be entered onto this attendance form.

Assessment Tasks

1 Clinical Logbook and Attendance

Assessment Type

Professional Practice Placement

Task Description

As a healthcare professional, your attendance is relied upon for the provision of quality patient care. Your absence impacts service delivery and safe patient care. This logbook serves as a record of your clinical hours and the depth and breadth of experience you gained during placement. It shows how your skills have developed across different examination types. You should regularly review this record to help set learning goals that will support your achievement of the unit outcomes.

Clinical Placement Checklist

The placement checklist ensures that the objectives and parameters of placement are understood by the student and clinical supervisor. This must be completed by your clinical supervisor/s in the first week of **your** clinical placement block.

Clinical Logbook and Hours

Throughout your placement block, you are expected to adhere closely to the attendance requirements arranged with your clinical supervisor.

It is expected that you attend 100% of the time during your clinical placement to achieve the **minimum** requirement of 200 clinical attendance hours for this unit.

The placement allocations and dates may be subject to change depending on the ability of the clinical site to facilitate training. All hours worked must be entered into the clinical attendance form. This form must be verified and signed by the clinical supervisor, or a sonographer/radiologist, or by an obstetrician, vascular surgeon or physician that has undertaken appropriate ultrasound qualifications.

A copy of the form has been emailed to the clinical site. Please also print this form and read it carefully to understand the criteria of the requirements throughout the clinical placement.

Any absences for a part or full day of placement (other than sick leave) or variance to the allocated clinical placement block dates are not permitted unless discussed prior with and approved by your unit coordinator and subsequently by your clinical supervisor. Failure to have approval for leave may result in a fail for this assessment and this unit. As well, a fail in any assessment in MEDS12007 will also result in a fail for the unit.

Public holidays are included as hours worked and can be logged as 8 hours worked for each public holiday. **At any instance you are unable to attend placement, you must supply a verifiable supporting document indicating why you have not attended**, as per the Clinical Handbook. Both the clinical supervisor and the unit coordinator must be informed of any absences. Any absence from your clinical placement **must be made up** after or during the clinical placement (e.g. Saturdays or extension of rostered hours). You will need to discuss with your clinical placement site whether they can accommodate this for you. If you attend outside of your normal rostered hours, you must still be under direct supervision.

You must include any absences, lateness or early departures on the 'Clinical Logbook and Attendance' form.

For this clinical placement, you are required to record all ultrasound examinations you have either **completed, partially performed or observed**. The clinical logbook serves as a record of depth and breadth of experience attained during the placement. It shows your skill development within and across examination types.

Each case will be categorised into one of the following areas:

- Abdomen
- Renal
- Male Pelvis
- Superficial Structures (ie. thyroid, testes, etc.)
- Breast (female or male)
- Obstetrics (ie. first, second, third trimester, etc.) and Female Pelvis TA and/or TV (gynaecology)
- Vascular (ie. carotid, DVT, etc.)
- Musculoskeletal
- Other (ie. paediatric, interventional, etc.)

The **minimum** required hours for CG91 is 2000.

This is a **minimum not a maximum**. Some students may require longer clinical placement hours to reach graduate level competency.

Assessment Due Date

The Clinical Placement Checklist is due by 8 PM (AEST) Friday Week 1 after commencing your clinical placement block. It must be uploaded by online submission through Moodle. The Clinical Logbook and Hours document must be uploaded by online submission through Moodle by Monday 5 PM (AEST) after the last day of your clinical placement block. If you are completing placement in non-standard dates, it is still due by 5 PM (AEST) on the Monday following the completion of your clinical placement. It is recommended you submit this as soon as you have completed your placement. The form must be completed in its entirety, including final numbers, or it will not be marked. Any students whose clinical placement dates have been negotiated to extend beyond the standard due dates will need to communicate this with the unit coordinator.

Return Date to Students

Final clinical logbook numbers and attendance hours will be collated by the unit coordinator following the completion of the assessment. If assessment conditions are not met the unit coordinator will follow-up with the student.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade

The passing requirement for this assessment is 200 hours of clinical placement attendance and logging a minimum of 5 scans in any one of the logbook categories.

Assessment Criteria

To pass this assessment you must achieve the following minimum requirements by the end of this clinical placement:

1. Upload the completed and signed "Clinical Placement Checklist" form before the end of your first week of placement. Failure to submit on time may result in a fail for this assessment. A fail in any component of a pass/fail assessment will result in a fail for the unit.
2. Have a minimum of 200 hours of attendance documented on the "Clinical Attendance" form. This is required to be uploaded on Moodle, under the assessments section.
3. Have logged a minimum of 5 scans in any one of the logbook categories (abdominal, renal, female pelvis TA and/or TV or thyroid) by the end of the placement. Detailed instructions will be provided on Moodle. If students are unable to log the minimum of 5 scans on any of the categories listed above (due to specialist clinical placement), continue to record and log studies (following clinical logbook instructions) and contact the unit coordinator to discuss further options.
4. Document your clinical placement attendance and case logs accurately in your "Clinical Logbook and Attendance" form before submission. Ensure the entirety of the form has been completed including checking that total numbers have been collated and your clinical supervisor/s have signed for each week. Any days away from your clinical site must also be documented.

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit completed forms through the unit Moodle site before the due date.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Display professional behavior, teamwork and communication skills consistent with safe sonographic practice in accordance with CQUniversity graduate attributes, the Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers, and Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry accreditation requirements.

2 Practical Assessment

Assessment Type

Practical Assessment

Task Description

A key part of being a sonographer is your ability to perform a sonographic examination. In your MEDS12003 unit, you demonstrated beginner level skills in your Superficial Structures Skills Development assessment on normal volunteers. In your MEDS12004 unit, you demonstrated advanced beginner level skills in your Sonographic Skills Development 1 assessment on normal volunteers. In this unit, you are required to achieve a **novice (beginner level)** of competence on your first placement in a clinical setting, with the emphasis on patient care, patient communication, professionalism, and teamwork.

Assessment Task

In consultation with your clinical supervisor, you will pick **ONE** of the following examinations:

- Abdominal
- Renal
- Female pelvis (TA and/or TV)
- Thyroid

Discuss the best time to complete this practical assessment with your clinical supervisor. For this task, you will be assessed on your ability to interact and communicate with the patient and multidisciplinary team for the ultrasound examination. You will attempt to perform a portion of the ultrasound examination under the guidance of your supervisor.

This task will be assessed using the marking guidelines and scoring sheet criterion. This document is available on the unit Moodle site and is outlined in the "Practical Assessment Clinical Document" form. A copy of your practical assessment form has been emailed to your clinical site, but it is advisable for you to provide a printed copy to your clinical supervisor at commencement of your placement and/or on the day of the assessment.

If you do not meet the required competency level on your first attempt, you must seek detailed feedback from your assessor to critically reflect on and develop a strategy to improve your performance on the re-attempt. You must share your plan for improvement with your assessor and then re-attempt the assessment before the end of the clinical placement block.

If you received a fail on your first attempt, you are permitted **one (1) re-attempt in the competency examination that was failed, with no more than (two) 2 attempts permitted**. If a re-attempt is needed, submit the assessment documents from all attempts.

Assessment Due Date

The completed assessment form must be uploaded by online submission through Moodle by Monday 5 PM (AEST) after the last day of the placement block. Any students whose clinical placement dates have been negotiated to extend beyond these due dates will need to communicate with the unit coordinator.

Return Date to Students

Feedback will be provided to you by your clinical supervisor and assessments will be collated by the unit coordinator following completion of the assessment. If assessment requirements are not met the unit coordinator will follow-up with the student.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade

To successfully complete the competency at novice level, you must achieve Level 3 in patient communication and Level 1 or above in all other assessment areas within a maximum of two attempts.

Assessment Criteria

The assessment criteria will address the following areas:

- Knowledge of instrumentation including optimisation of survey and images through appropriate selection of parameters and technique
- Interrogation of anatomy and acquisition of relevant images to demonstrate diagnostic sufficiency and completeness of the information obtained
- Recognition and understanding of the relevant anatomy and pathology demonstrated
- Ability to recognise the need to and extend the clinical examination where appropriate
- Accurate documentation and communication of findings
- Occupational health and safety
- Infection control

To successfully complete the competency at **novice level**, you must achieve Level 3 in patient communication and Level 1 or above in all other assessment areas.

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit completed forms through the unit Moodle site before the due date.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Perform sonographic examination under supervision to meet the Competency Standards for Level 1 - Novice (Student).
- Evaluate sonographic findings and describe them in simple terms to solve straightforward diagnostic problems.
- Display professional behavior, teamwork and communication skills consistent with safe sonographic practice in accordance with CQUniversity graduate attributes, the Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers, and Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry accreditation requirements.

3 Global Assessment of Professional Attributes (GAPA)

Assessment Type

Direct observation of procedural skills (DOPs)

Task Description

As a medical sonography student, you are provided access to a professional workplace to gain clinical hands-on experience. It is expected that you conduct yourself in a manner that reflects the behaviours and attributes of a healthcare professional and presents a positive image to the staff and patients at the clinical facility. As a medical sonography student in Australia, you are required to abide by the Code of Conduct for Medical Sonographers. Professional behaviour, particularly in terms of teamwork and empathy, are key factors considered by clinical sites when employing sonographers.

This assessment is based on the 'Holistic Matrix' component of the Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers (1) that is fundamental for sonographic practice. (1) You will be assessed on your ability to communicate professionally with patients and staff of diverse cultural backgrounds, demonstrate respect to all, and function as a reliable, well organised member of the healthcare team.

Your clinical supervisor, or delegate, will be observing your daily performance and/or gathering feedback from supervising sonographers. These observations and feedback are based on your demonstrated knowledge, skills and behaviours over a period of time and are not limited to a specific scan or patient case. These observations and feedback are then used to complete the Global Assessment of Professional Attributes (GAPA) form provided.

There are three (3) main sections of the GAPA form:

- Section 1: Applied Knowledge
- Section 2: Psychomotor Skills (Scanning Skills) and Standard of Work
- Section 3: Professionalism

In each section there are multiple observed behaviours that you are required to demonstrate throughout your placement. Your assessor will score your performance based on the frequency and extent you demonstrate each of these behaviours. Your assessor is encouraged to provide comments to expand on this scoring feedback.

This assessment occurs twice during the placement:

1. The first occurs at the mid-placement point, the end of week 3. The mid-placement GAPA is formative, which provides you and your unit coordinator with formal documented feedback on your performance without affecting your final grade. Your clinical supervisor will email the GAPA directly to the unit coordinator, who will then determine if it is satisfactory or unsatisfactory.

A formative GAPA may be completed by your clinical supervisor at any time, before or after the mid-placement GAPA if there are concerns with your performance. This formative GAPA will be emailed directly to the unit coordinator. If the mid-placement GAPA or any other formative GAPA is assessed as unsatisfactory, feedback will be provided to you, and you are expected to use that feedback to improve your performance.

2. The second or end-of-placement GAPA occurs towards the end of Week 5, the final week of the placement. The end-of-placement GAPA is summative, and your final grade depends on how well you meet the performance targets listed in the assessment criteria.

The GAPA form is available on the unit Moodle site. Print these forms and read them carefully so you understand the criteria that will be used to assess your performance. You should provide printed copies to your clinical supervisor at the commencement of your placement. The form can also be electronically emailed to your clinical supervisor, if preferred. After each GAPA, find an appropriate time to discuss the score and comments with your clinical supervisor. For the end-of-placement GAPA, you and your clinical supervisor will both need to sign and date the assessment. Your clinical supervisor will provide you a copy of the completed end-of-placement GAPA. You will need to submit this through the unit Moodle site before the due date. Any students whose clinical placement dates have been negotiated to extend beyond the standard due dates will need to communicate this with the unit coordinator.

It is your responsibility to remind your clinical supervisor, at least a week in advance, to complete the assessment and schedule a meeting with him/her afterwards to discuss it before the assessment due date. This allows your supervisor time to collect feedback and arrange for an alternate assessor, if necessary.

If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent you from being assessed before the due date, you must inform the unit coordinator in a timely manner and request an extension through the Moodle site.

It is your responsibility to ensure regular, reliable access to technology as needed to submit the assessment by the due date. Failure to meet the requirements listed in the assessment criteria by the due dates, without an approved extension, will result in failing the assessment and consequently, the unit. Please bear in mind that a fail in any assessment in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the entire unit.

Occasionally, clinical sites may inform us of student behaviour that compromise the reputation of the clinical site and/or the university, and/or compromise patient/staff safety and wellbeing. In such cases, the student will be notified that he/she must stop attending the clinical site and discuss his/her position with the unit coordinator and the Head of Course. In accordance with CQUniversity policy, this may result in student behavioural misconduct procedures.

1. Childs J, Thoires K, Quinton A, Osborne B, Edwards C, Stoodley P, et al. Professional Competency Framework for Sonographers [Internet]. 2021 Oct [cited 2022 Nov 18]. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.17148035.v2>

Assessment Due Date

The mid-placement GAPA must be emailed by your clinical supervisor directly to the unit coordinator by 8 PM AEST Monday Week 4. It is your responsibility to check that the supervisor has emailed the mid-placement GAPA to the unit coordinator. The end-of-placement GAPA must be completed and submitted on the unit Moodle site by the Monday following the end of your 5-week placement. This assessment must be completed and uploaded by Monday 5 PM AEST after the end of your placement. Any students whose clinical placement dates have been negotiated to extend beyond these due dates will need to communicate this with the unit coordinator.

Return Date to Students

Assessments will be collated by the unit coordinator. After your mid-placement GAPA has been received and marked by the unit coordinator, it will be uploaded on the unit Moodle site. Feedback regarding the GAPA will be provided to you by your clinical supervisor. If the assessment conditions are not met, the unit coordinator will follow-up with the student.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade

See above for specific criteria to achieve an overall grade of "pass" in this assessment task. A fail in any assessment in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the entire unit.

Assessment Criteria

There are 37 behaviours you are required to demonstrate during placement and are listed in the GAPA form.

These required behaviours are grouped into three (3) sections:

- Section 1: Applied Knowledge - five (5) required behaviours
- Section 2: Psychomotor Skills (Scanning Skills) and Standard of Work - twelve (12) required behaviours
- Section 3: Professionalism - sixteen (16) required behaviours

The criteria for this assessment is detailed on the GAPA form specified as required behaviours and attributes.

The assessor will use the stated scale, limited to level 3, to indicate the frequency and extent to which you demonstrate each of those. The required behaviours and attributes are grouped in 3 sections, each with their own minimum required scores.

For Section 1: Applied Knowledge -

The student must achieve level 1 or above in all areas.

For Section 2: Psychomotor Skills (Scanning Skills) and Standard of Work -

The student must achieve level 1 or above in all areas.

For Section 3: Professionalism -

The student must achieve level 1 or above in all areas.

If you demonstrate unsatisfactory performance in the mid-placement GAPA, you will be deemed as a student at risk of failing and you will be given a chance to improve. After consultation with your clinical supervisor, key performance indicators (KPIs) will be set and are required to be achieved within a given timeframe. If there is not sufficient, demonstrable improvement and these KPIs are not met, this will result in a fail for your second GAPA and therefore a fail for this assessment and consequently, the unit. Please bear in mind a fail in any assessment in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the unit.

If you demonstrate unsatisfactory performance in the end-of-placement GAPA, this will result in a fail for this assessment and the unit. Please bear in mind a fail in any assessment in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the unit.

If a student's behaviour fails to meet the minimum required levels in the GAPA at any stage of clinical placement, he/she may be identified as a 'student at risk' by the clinical supervisor or unit coordinator. Any 'student at risk' will be notified by the unit coordinator, who will provide formative feedback. KPIs will be set and required to be met within a given

timeframe. Failure to meet these KPIs within the given timeframe will result in a fail in the second/end-of-placement GAPA and therefore, a fail for this assessment and the unit. Please bear in mind a fail in any assessment in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the unit.

Occasionally, a student's behaviour is beyond acceptable risk to clinical sites. The clinical supervisor may contact CQUniversity if this occurs. A GAPA may be requested at this time (which could be at any time during the placement). If the outcome of this GAPA is unsatisfactory, and/or the clinical site feedback indicates that they can no longer host a student due to the risk incurred, this will constitute a fail of the unit. Please bear in mind a fail in any assessment in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the unit.

In order to achieve an overall grade of 'Pass' in this assessment task, you must:

- complete and correctly submit both the mid-placement and end-of-placement GAPAs by the due dates;
- demonstrate satisfactory performance (achieve Level 1 or above in all 37 behaviours) in the end-of placement GAPA;
- ensure the documentation of each GAPA assessment is complete;
- upload each completed GAPA assessment form and submit on Moodle

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Mid-placement GAPA to be emailed by the clinical supervisor directly to the unit coordinator. Submission of the end-of-placement GAPA is by student via the unit Moodle site.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Perform sonographic examination under supervision to meet the Competency Standards for Level 1 - Novice (Student).
- Critically reflect upon own professional practice, sonographer psychomotor skills, sonographic knowledge, teamwork, communication skills and safe clinical practice.

4 Written Assessment (Clinical Decision-Making) and Quiz

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You are about to enter the clinical environment for your first clinical placement to continue your preparation for your future as a sonographer. Qualified sonographers use experiential and knowledge-based clinical intuition to assist in making clinical decisions. This helps them decide things such as what questions to ask during history taking, where to focus their scan, how to extend the scan, what images to record and what to highlight in their report. You are going to begin the process of developing this clinical decision-making capacity in this assessment.

Kerry Thoires and Jenny Sims, two well-respected educators in imaging, have adapted a clinical decision-making framework to support student sonographers to develop clinical decision-making skills and structure clinical learning. This assessment requires you to complete a clinical case report on an ultrasound examination that you have either performed, or taken part in, while undertaking this clinical unit. You are going to produce a clinical case report in the style described by Thoires and Sims in their published article, "Using a Clinical Decision-Making Framework to Foster Sonographer Student Learning in the Clinical Setting". Using this framework will give you a chance to appraise your professional performance including sonographic knowledge, technical skill, professionalism, teamwork, communication skills and safe clinical practice to identify goals for continuing professional development.

The following section will detail the template outline for the clinical case report.

Task

Using the headings below fill out details of a scan. It will be structured to include five components:

- Information gathering around the patient presentation;
- Hypothesis generation – the making of a tentative diagnosis based on the information gained in the previous component;
- Sonographic assessment to gather further information;
- The combination and cognitive synthesis of previous components to make a sonographic diagnosis; and
- Reflection and consolidation of learning from the case.

The full article is included on the unit Moodle site for you to read and refer to.

Quiz

Another important part of being a sonographer is your ability to critique and interpret ultrasound images. As you

progress through this course, you will develop your knowledge and ability in identifying normal vs. abnormal sonographic findings, interpreting and critiquing ultrasound images and decision-making to extend the scan further when required.

Quiz Task Description

This task will assess your understanding of image optimisation, image interpretation and critical thinking. There is only one attempt for this quiz. If you do not meet the minimum requirement for the quiz, you will receive a fail for this assessment task and this will lead to failure of this unit. Please bear in mind a fail in any assessment (or task within an assessment) in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the unit.

You need to ensure that you have adequate computer and internet facilities in completing this assessment. If students are requiring assistance with regards to connectivity issues, please ensure that communication is made in a timely manner prior to the attempt with the unit coordinator.

Practice questions will be provided in fortnightly tutorials. The quiz will cover content related to:

- Ultrasound Physics and Instrumentation
- Small Parts Ultrasound (ie. thyroid, testes, etc.)
- Upper Abdominal Ultrasound
- Obstetric and Gynaecology Ultrasound

The quiz will require students to name anatomical structures in ultrasound, to explain normal and abnormal findings, and demonstrate critical thinking.

The quiz will be open in week 10.

Assessment Due Date

Quiz: Week 10 Monday (22 Jan 2024) 6:00 PM AEST. Written Assessment: The completed written assessment must be uploaded by online submission through Moodle by Monday 5 PM (AEST) after the last day of the placement block. Any students whose clinical placement dates have been negotiated to extend beyond these due dates will need to communicate with the unit coordinator.

Return Date to Students

Students must meet the 'requirements met' score in all areas of the marking rubric. In the event that the first submission does not meet minimum requirements as per the rubric, students will be provided with feedback and guidance by the unit coordinator. Furthermore, the students will then have an opportunity to revise and resubmit the report within one week of receiving feedback.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade

Students must achieve a 50% in each task to "pass" this assessment. Please bear in mind a fail in any assessment (or task within an assessment) in MEDS12007 will result in a fail for the unit.

Assessment Criteria

Students must achieve 50% on each task (the written assessment and the quiz) in order to pass this assessment. Please bear in mind that a fail on either task will result in a fail on the assessment and consequently the unit. All assessments in this unit must achieve a pass in order to pass the unit.

Referencing Style

- [Vancouver](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Online submission of the completed written assessment and completion of the online quiz are both via Moodle unit site. This is a pass/fail assessment item. You must pass both tasks in this assessment to pass the unit.

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem