



Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry & Health Sciences  
**Department of General Practice**



# Training in Women's Health Screening

## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

This program provides the theoretical and practical framework for nurses to provide women's health screening services. The program has a strong communication focus and is based on a psychosocial model of health.

At completion of the program you will be able to:

- Recognise and provide appropriate advice or referral for common women's health issues including domestic violence;
- Perform a reproductive and sexual health history in the context of screening;
- Conduct a sensitive examination and competently collect samples;
- Understand the screening process and guidelines;
- Interpret and manage test results;
- Be aware of the medico-legal aspects of providing screening services;
- Establish a nurse-led screening services.

The program is taken by distance with a one-day workshop on consulting and clinical skills using simulated patients and Clinical Teaching Associates as expert coaches.

## WHO IS THE PROGRAM FOR?

This program would suit nurses working in general practice and other primary health care settings. It is also suitable for nurses who wish to develop skills in order to transition to primary care.

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Can be taken as a single subject study (Community Access Program) or as part of the Diploma/Certificate in Primary Care Nursing

- Extended semester to allow time to complete clinical practice
- Delivered by distance education using an online learning platform
- A compulsory 8 hour workshop with simulated patients to assist students in the development of the practical communication and clinical skills

## HOW WILL THE PROGRAM BENEFIT ME?

Successful completion of the program provides pathways to further study at The University of Melbourne. The program can be credited to a Graduate Certificate or Diploma in Primary Care Nursing.

Nurses working in Victoria are eligible to be credentialed as Nurse Cervical Screening Providers. Interstate students are advised to check their ability to be credentialed with their local state Department of Health.

[www.gp.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.gp.unimelb.edu.au)



## SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants must have:

- completed a 3 year degree or diploma of nursing (or approved equivalent);
- minimum of 1 year clinical practice;
- National Division 1 Registration (Division 1 nurse).

## CLINICAL PLACEMENT POLICIES

All students who undertake a clinical placement are required to comply with the clinical placement policies

<https://sc.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/clinical-placements>

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Local applicants (Australian and New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents) should apply directly to the University through the online application system:

<https://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/applications/other-applications/CAP>

## FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Please refer to the website below for fees when the program is taken as a single subject study (CAP):

<https://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/fees/CAP>

Information about the external Australian Government Scholarships is available on Australian College of Nursing website:

<http://www.acn.edu.au/nahsss>

## PAPSCREEN VICTORIA ALSO PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NURSES

<http://www.papscreen.org.au/forhealthprofessional/grantsandscholarships>

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*"I have been instrumental in encouraging all clinicians within the clinic to ensure all women are up to date in their Pap smears. We have run an information night for women in the local community particularly targeting older women. I often have to give advice to younger women, in particular, about their abnormal smears."*

*"I have patients particularly booked for me. Before I would just assist doctors and follow their orders. Now I am able to consult patients alone and only consult doctors if I think the case needs an opinion. It is a very satisfying role."*

## CONTACT DETAILS

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