

Meet the Nurses – Jackie Gardiner

CURRENT POSITION

I am currently employed as a Division One RN at Golf Links Rd Rehabilitation Unit One.

POSITION DESCRIPTION (What does your role involve?)

My role involves:

- Liaising with Allied Health team to achieve optimal patient outcomes
- Assisting patients with PADL's whilst promoting independence.
- Acting as Diabetes portfolio holder for the unit. This involves patient education and R/V of diabetes care during admission and post discharge. I also act as a resource to nursing staff on the unit.
- Participating/contributing to weekly ward rounds and meetings
- Acting as patient advocate
- Administration of medication

HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED AT PENINSULA HEALTH?

I started working for Peninsula Health on nurse bank at the Mount Eliza Centre in May 1995. I became a Permanent Part-time staff member in 2000.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU WORKED IN NURSING AND IN WHAT AREAS? (Nursing experience)

I have worked as a nurse for almost 12 years. I did agency nursing in various areas briefly (6 months) before finding my 'niche' in rehabilitation, where I have worked since.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE NURSING AS A CAREER?

I believed it was a career which offered many different fields to work in. Also nursing is a profession that will always be needed – provides job security. I liked the idea of caring for people.

WHAT ARE THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF YOUR JOB?

Seeing the fantastic outcomes we can achieve for the majority of our patients, and working with such a great team of people.

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE CAREER PLANS?

At the moment I'm happy to continue in my role as a rehabilitation nurse and improve my knowledge in this area through ongoing education.