

- How has the experience contributed to acquiring professional skills?

My experience at Warwick Hospital has helped greatly in performing the skills we had practiced in labs. Not only do I have a greater sense of confidence within my abilities, the knowledge I acquired on this placement was invaluable. Being in a remote region we were exposed to situations that may not arise in metropolitan areas. This had us thinking on our feet as to how to overcome problems that we never would have dreamed of! By going to a rural hospital it allowed me the opportunity to try different areas and see where my future interests lie within nursing.

- How has the experience influenced your personal motivations to work in a rural setting?

I don't believe I could have had a better experience, and this has hugely motivated me to continue a remote pathway within my nursing career. Additional to this, it has made me further consider post-graduate studies and what might be useful to take into these areas. Flight nursing is something I would really like to look into as the care provided by these staff members and their level of skill inspired me to learn as much as I could in the time that I was there. I have also looked into rural post-graduate positions after seeing the extensive knowledge in assessment skills of the nurses who had completed these programs.

- How has the NAFEA scholarship assisted with undertaking a rural placement?

The NAFEA scholarship allowed me to focus on my placement without the additional stress of worrying about finances. During my month away from home I was still able to invest in self-care opportunities like weekly yoga with the hospital staff, and not miss out on these amazing bonding experiences. It also meant I was able to explore the region without worrying about returning to Brisbane on weekends for work. This scholarship was a sigh of relief and gave me further incentive to make the most of my experience. Thank you NAFEA for allowing me this unforgettable experience!