



AUT

PERIOPERATIVE PRACTICE AT AUT



aut.ac.nz/healthsciences

Are you interested in a career in operating theatre patient care? Do you want to become an anaesthetic technician and care for patients throughout their operating theatre journey?

Study the Perioperative Practice major in the Bachelor of Health Science.

At AUT, you will learn from staff who are practising anaesthetic technicians, anaesthetists, nurses, midwives, and medical specialists. There's a focus on practical experience with clinical placements in a range of operating theatre specialities to ensure that the Perioperative Practice major prepares you for a successful lifelong career.

As a graduate of this programme you can apply for registration as an anaesthetic technician with the Medical Sciences Council of New Zealand.*

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN ANAESTHETIC TECHNICIAN

- **Supporting anaesthetists in providing high standards of anaesthetic care, including airway management**
- **Working alongside the anaesthetist to place patients' breathing tubes and intravenous lines, including placement of Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters**
- **Working alongside the anaesthetist to administer anaesthetics, including local anaesthetics and nerve blocks**
- **Monitoring patients' vital signs (such as heartbeat) while under anaesthesia**
- **Checking and setting up life support and anaesthetic machines**
- **Delivering high standards of patient care after surgical operations within the Post-Anaesthetic Care Unit.**

Perioperative practice describes the care which is provided to patients during their journey through the operating theatre department as they undergo their surgical operation. This includes anaesthetic care, surgical care and post-anaesthetic care.

When a patient needs an operation there are times when they are required to be unconscious. There are other times when a patient would like to be fully aware, just not in pain. Both of these scenarios are examples of requiring anaesthetic care.

Surgical care is the care provided during the surgical procedure by the whole operating theatre team to ensure the patient is well cared for during a time of vulnerability.

Post-anaesthetic care is the immediate time after the surgical operation when the patient recovers or wakes up from their anaesthetic.

Throughout this journey, the patient requires a team of highly skilled and knowledgeable health professionals. Anaesthetic technicians are one of these health professions, and they work alongside doctors and nurses to deliver these high standards of anaesthetic and perioperative care.

*Subject to accreditation from the Medical Sciences Council



KEY FEATURES



- The only New Zealand university degree in perioperative practice
- Offered at AUT South Campus (Manukau) including online learning options
- Practice experiences throughout New Zealand
- Approximately 1,200 hours of clinical learning opportunities including:
 - Clinical placement
 - Simulation
 - Virtual reality experiences

At the successful completion of the perioperative practice degree, you meet the requirements to apply for the anaesthetic technician scope of practice.*

SKILLS YOU'LL DEVELOP



- Intravenous cannulation (placing tubes in patients' veins)
- Resuscitation (Intermediate Life Support)
- ECG monitoring (monitoring the electrical activity of the heart)
- Airway intubation assistance (placing breathing tubes into the trachea) and airway management

These competencies will make you highly employable.

BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE IN PERIOPERATIVE PRACTICE

360 points • Level 7 • 3 years full-time

Year 1 – Semester 1

Lifespan Development & Communication HEAL504	Human Anatomy & Physiology I HEAL505	Knowledge, Enquiry & Communication HEAL506	Health & Environment OR Hauora Māori & Environment HEAL507/MAOH501
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Year 1 – Semester 2

Human Anatomy & Physiology II HEAL609	Pathology & Pathophysiology PARA601	Introduction to Anaesthesia & Perioperative Theory ANAE601	Introduction to Anaesthesia & Perioperative Practice# ANAE602
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Year 2 – Semester 3

Methods of Research & Enquiry HEAL610	Pharmacology for Professional Practice PHMY701	Anaesthetic & Perioperative Practice I# (30 points) ANAE603
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Year 2 – Semester 4

Fundamentals of Surgery# ANAE604	Anaesthetic & Perioperative Practice II# ANAE701	Haemodynamics in the Acute Patient PARA606	Cardiology PARA706
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Year 3 – Semester 5

Clinical Reasoning PARA709	Intermediate Life Support PARA707	Anaesthetic & Perioperative Practice III# (30 points) ANAE702
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Year 3 – Semester 6

Health Law & Policy HLAW701	Clinical Risk Management PARA704	Anaesthetic & Perioperative Practice IV# (30 points) ANAE703
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= course includes clinical placement opportunities

-  = shared courses for health science degrees
-  = courses shared with the paramedicine degree
-  = perioperative practice courses

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ENQUIRE NOW

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