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15 NEW INTERNS START AT ROYAL DARWIN HOSPITAL

Minister for Health Dr Peter Toyne today announced that 15 doctor interns begin their careers this week at Royal Darwin Hospital.

The interns, who hail from around Australia, have just completed an intensive orientation week.

At the completion of their intern year the doctors earn full registration to practice medicine in Australia.

Dr Toyne said the new staff members were a great boost for the hospital and good news for Darwin.

“This shows the recruitment effort is working and we’re building better health services in the Territory,” Dr Toyne said.

“The interns have been taken through hospital policy and procedure courses as well as cross-cultural training and now they’ll be introduced to more hands-on work.

“A number of the interns that have just begun at RDH are mature age students and bring a variety of first degrees and a wealth of life experience; they’re keen, enthusiastic and ready to take on the exciting challenges of the Top End.”

Former Royal Darwin Hospital nurse, Heidi Faustmann, said her new role as a doctor was a whole new ball game compared to when she was a nurse at RDH.

“The orientation has been very interesting, and as a former nurse I have lots of experience with Territory health issues and the hospital and this will help me immensely,” said Dr Faustmann.

“I grew up here, my family and my husband are here, and I look forward to a long career in the Territory,” said Dr Faustmann.

Another intern who has just started is 26-year-old Kylie Gayford.

“I trained here at Royal Darwin and really enjoyed it, there’s an interesting patient and case mix and that’s why I wanted to stay at RDH, I also really love the Top End lifestyle which was a big factor in deciding to stay,” said Dr Kylie Gayford.

“I’m lucky to be able to work in the areas of remote and Indigenous health and look forward to meeting the challenges that brings and learning more about Indigenous culture,” said Dr Gayford.

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