



Australian
National
University

Medicine at ANU

School of Medicine and Psychology

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WELCOME TO THE ANU

Choosing a university that is the right fit is a big deal and an important decision. We hope this guide will help you make your choice.

As the inaugural Director of the School of Medicine and Psychology, I'm proud to say that ANU is leading the way as the first university in the world to integrate the disciplines of medicine and psychology into one school. This integration will produce adaptable, innovative and resilient doctors and leaders of the future who work in partnership with their patients and colleagues to provide optimal care while strengthening the system and society they work in.

Not only are we a world-leading university, but excellence is embedded in our approach to education and research. Our teaching staff include award winning and internationally recognised educators and researchers.

We have a strong focus on providing a superior student experience, including on campus residential living, an inclusive student community, hosting community events, and supporting students academically and in their every-day life.

Our beautiful campus and surrounding areas are the best that regional Australia has to offer. It's an easy commute within Canberra and there are opportunities for outdoor activities such as mountain biking, skiing, sailing, rowing and hiking. There are multiple cultural experiences in music and other arts at the many museums, galleries and music venues. Canberra is Australia's best kept secret.

The Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program, offers an inclusive environment with students coming from diverse backgrounds and with varying life experiences. We welcome students from all over Australia and around the world.

We accept only a small cohort of students each year, which means that your learning will be supported and nurtured by our staff, teachers and your peers.

We have built strong partnerships with hospitals, general practices and other health care settings in Canberra, Sydney, South East NSW and the Northern Territory to ensure your clinical training is second to none. You will have opportunities to learn from renowned researchers, and experience health care in the community, as well as in a variety of hospitals.

You'll be taught and mentored by experienced academics and health staff who will see you as an integral part of the team. As your skills and knowledge develop, your contribution will positively impact on the health of communities and improve peoples' lives.

We wish you the best of luck as you begin your journey to becoming a doctor and hope to welcome you to the ANU soon.



Professor Paul Fitzgerald
Director, School of Medicine and
Psychology

Why study at ANU?

The right choice

Excellence in education

The best thing about studying medicine at ANU is also the most important thing. Our teachers. They are inspiring, award-winning and deliver results: dedicated doctors of the highest standard. That could be you.

A personal learning environment

Our class sizes are among the smallest of any medical school in Australia, meaning our expert teaching staff are accessible to you when you need them, which at some point, you will.

A supportive clinical experience

Because we're the only medical school in Canberra, you'll find familiar faces — your teachers, and students from the years ahead of you — in every hospital corridor, ready to show you the ropes.

A community of your own

We have a vibrant postgraduate student body many of whom have moved to Canberra just to be at ANU, and are looking for new friends and new adventures. It's not just a campus, it's a community.

A world-class degree

An ANU degree says something. It says you're a graduate from one of the world's great universities, (QS World University Rankings, 2025). A medical degree opens doors, but one from ANU opens even more.

“I came to Australia from Botswana, and as an international student I feel so welcome here. Everyone is open to making new friends and supporting each other.”

— Gautam Bhanot / Graduate



Your ANU experience

Your campus life

Your new home

ANU has village-style accommodation dedicated to postgraduate students, and just a short walk or bike ride from the teaching facilities. Choose from a studio flat or a one-, three- or five-bedroom apartment.

Commute? What commute?

Even if you're not living on campus, Canberra has the shortest commute time of any Australian capital city. It's almost like you literally have more hours in your day, when you're not on a train for half of it.

Find your people

There are over 110 ANU clubs and societies; with sports, cultural activities, and social communities ready and waiting for you.

Get extra-curricular

We promise you will have free time. Escape the textbooks and get on stage at the annual Med Revue, join the editorial board of the Medical Students Journal of Australia, or go bush with ANU Rural Medical Society.

“It’s so great living here. The areas around campus are so, so beautiful, and it’s a great studying environment. When I first arrived here, I couldn’t cook. I even gave myself food poisoning once! But now I’ve got actual life skills as well as half a medical degree, and I’ve made so many more new friends than if I just stayed at home in Sydney.”

— Jacqueline Chen, Graduate



Why Canberra?

Where you want to be

Better than anywhere else — seriously

What could be better than living in a city that was once deemed the 'most liveable city' by the OECD? Having the winners of the Australian barista championships just a short walk from campus. World champions even!

The international capital

The numbers speak for themselves: ANU is ranked the 15th most international university in the world (The Times Higher Education World University Rankings, 2024) and one quarter of Canberra's population was born overseas.

Safe and sound

Canberra has all the advantages of a capital city, like national institutions and amenities, but without the daily grind of crowds and commutes. It's also one of the safest cities in the world. Life is easy here.

We know what they said about us

But in fact we have more students per capita than any Australian city and we're in the top 30 student cities in the world (QS Best Student Cities, 2025). Trust the data.

“I did my undergrad in Canberra and for a little while I thought about going to another city for my medical degree, but I'm so glad I didn't. The vibe in Canberra is so different to anywhere else. I ride my bike everywhere and I have a lot of freedom and independence. It's such a tight-knit community too. Compared to other places, there's just no drama.”

— Hillary McArthur, graduate



Why the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program?

Your future

Doctors you can look up to

This is Dr Dianne Whiteman, an Emergency Medicine Physician in Canberra. She is an educator and the Academic Coordinator for Phase 2 Clinical Skills for the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program. We could tell you she's an inspiration, but you'd be better off listening to her students:

"Dr Whiteman creates an environment within clinical skills that makes you feel comfortable to try new skills but also make mistakes without judgement."

"Her passion is evident to all of her students, and she inspires each and every one of us to be better students for our PATIENTS."

"She absolutely fostered everyone in the room's interest, motivation and engagement and was especially good at communicating difficult concepts clearly."

"The teacher that makes us all want to be better students."

"Dr Whiteman has been a constant source of support -both academic and pastoral for the last four years of medical school. She is a dedicated teacher who works very hard to make her students feel confident in their clinical skills."

"When I hear the laughter emanating from the classrooms as students undertake their clinical education, I know that my students are feeling safe while they're developing confidence and competence in the skills required of them when they graduate."

— Dr Dianne Whiteman, Clinical Skills Academic Coordinator



Your opportunities

You can make an impact

Rural placement

The award-winning rural program offers rural opportunities throughout the course. During your six-week placement in South East NSW, you will develop an understanding of the challenges unique to rural medicine through first-hand experience and engagement with the local community.

Rural Stream

In the Rural Stream, you spend a year living and working in a rural town, well supported by local academics and clinicians. You will follow an integrated, patient-based, longitudinal study program, combining medicine, surgery, and community and child health. You will contribute to the rural community through our strong partnerships with general practices, local hospitals and community services.

Indigenous Health Stream

Our whole-of-curriculum perspective on Indigenous health is complemented by the Indigenous Health Stream. You will be supported to undertake your research project in Indigenous health, participate in cultural immersion trips and to undertake clinical placements in Aboriginal communities, as well as working with the community and Aboriginal Community Controlled health Sector.

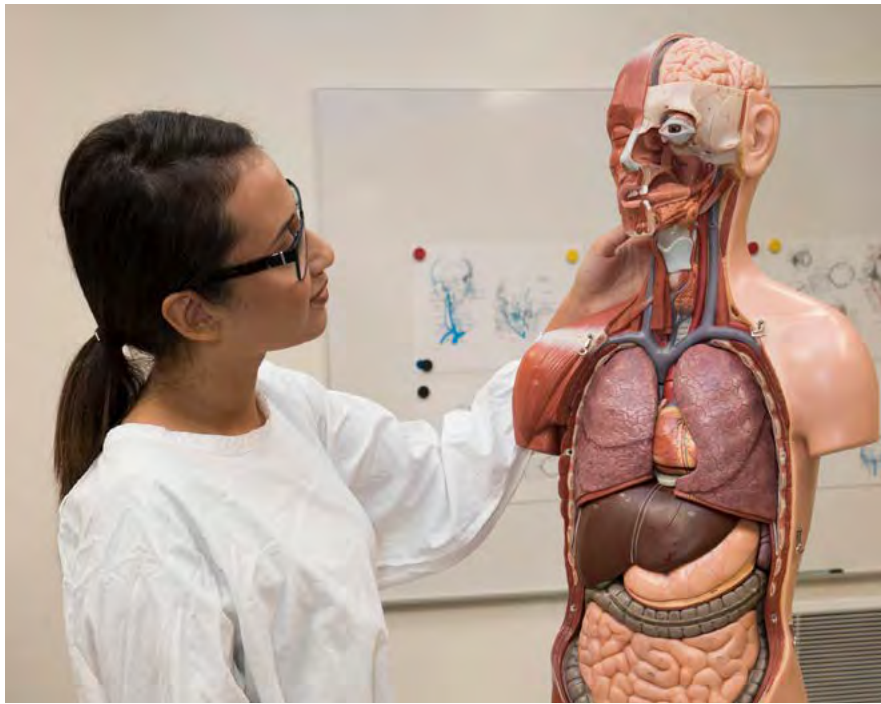
International opportunities

Our students have had life-changing experiences during elective terms in international locations: anywhere from a clinic in the remote Scottish Highlands to a bustling hospital in a Chinese metropolis.

Urban Clinical Placements

Students can gain hands-on experience during placements at general practices, hospitals and community organisations throughout the Australian Capital Territory as well as the largest single campus private hospital in NSW - the Sydney Adventist Hospital. Students encounter a wide range of subspecialty areas of medicine, surgery, acute care, and women's health and gain valuable insight into the differences between the public and private hospital sectors.





Your medical degree

The Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program is a comprehensive and varied four-year post graduate program for students looking to enter the rewarding field of medicine as professional medical practitioners. Our training produces graduates who are committed to compassionate, ethical healthcare and the expansion of medical knowledge.

What do you study?

The medical program is underpinned by four themes:

- **Medical sciences** covers a vast scope of ever-changing and expanding knowledge that forms the basis of modern medicine.
- **Clinical skills** ensures the acquisition of knowledge is accompanied by communication skills, the ability to examine patients and critically appraise information.
- **Population health** addresses the relationship between humans, their society and environment.
- **Professionalism and leadership** develops these vital skills of a good doctor.

The curriculum is built on important frameworks that explore the social foundations of medicine, develop understanding of the Indigenous health context in Australia, and provide insights and experience in health care in rural and/or remote Australian settings. Consistent with the research-intensive nature of ANU, our program also develops the research skills of our students.

What can you expect?

Years one and two

During the first two years of the program, the curriculum is built around team-based learning (TBL) sessions. TBL sessions are designed to promote creative and analytical thinking through both collaborative and self-directed learning.

The TBL sessions are supported by large group sessions, online resources, practicals, tutorials and a weekly clinical day in one of Canberra's hospitals. All learning resources are easily accessed through the university learning management system and related digital platforms.

During each of the first two years, students also undertake rural and cultural immersion activities around the ACT and south-east region of NSW. Students also conduct a research project during this time, expanding their knowledge and research skills through collaboration with the world class research teams here at ANU.

Years three and four

From the end of the second year, students spend almost all of their contact hours in the health sector.

During this time, they are immersed in all the major medical disciplines through rotations of four or more weeks.

Medicine at ANU offers students the opportunity to undertake clinical placements within our Canberra, Sydney and Rural Clinical Schools. In the ACT and the Canberra Clinical School, Canberra Hospital campus is the principal teaching location complemented by North Canberra Hospital and a wide

range of Primary Care and community based health care facilities. Many students will also undertake placements at our Sydney Clinical School located at the Sydney Adventist Hospital. Placements in the Rural Clinical School include hospitals, primary care and community health facilities in South eastern NSW and the Northern Territory.

The program structure

Phase	Year	Description	Courses	Codes	
1	1	Block 1: Foundation Block	Medicine 1A	MEDI8011	
		Block 2: Cardiorespiratory and Renal	Medicine 1B	MEDI8012	
		Block 3: Endocrinology and Reproductive Health	Professional Practice	MEDI8015	
	2	2	Block 4: Musculoskeletal and Neuroscience	Medicine 2	MEDI8020
			Block 5: Digestive Diseases and Nutrition	Professional Practice 2	MEDI8025
			Block 6: Haematology, Oncology and Infectious Diseases	Research project	MEDI8022
			Block 7: Consolidation		
2	3	Two curriculum blocks comprised of a series of clinical rotations:	Medicine 3	MEDI8030	
		Foundations of Internal Medicine and Surgery	Professional Practice 3	MEDI8035	
		Integrated Community and Child Health			
4	4	Four clinical rotations:	Elective		
		Senior Medicine and Surgery Block	Medicine 4	MEDI8040	
		Acute Care Block	Professional Practice 4	MEDI8045	
		Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine Block			
		Women's Health and Newborn Care Block			

How to apply:

Domestic

The Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program is a Level 9 AQF Masters by coursework qualification.

The application and selection process

1. Domestic applicants must apply through the Graduate Entry Medical School Admissions System (GEMSAS) www.gemsas.edu.au
2. Selection for interview is based on a 50:50 composite score derived from your GPA (weighted 50%) and Overall GAMSAT score (weighted 50%).
3. Offers of a place will be based on a final score derived from the interview score (50%) and the composite GPA/GAMSAT score used for interview ranking (50%)
4. We accept students from a diverse range of undergraduate degree backgrounds who have been successful with the GAMSAT.

Domestic students will be offered either a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) or Bonded Medical Place (BMP) according to their final offer rank. Both places are government supported. A BMP has a return of service obligation which includes a commitment to work in eligible regional, rural and remote areas for a specific period of time after completion of the medical program. Students who indicate in their GEMSAS application that they do not wish to be considered for a BMP place may be passed over in the offer round if their final offer rank is not sufficient for a CSP offer.

Indigenous students: ANU encourages applications from Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. We have recognised places available in the medical program each year to applicants of this background. All Indigenous students commencing the medical program are guaranteed a Scholarship.

Applicants who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander are welcome to apply through GEMSAS or directly to ANU. If applying directly, you will need to complete the application form

on our website and provide all relevant supporting documentation.

Understanding the entry requirements

1. **Bachelor Degree:** As a minimum, applicants must have completed a Bachelor Degree or be in the final year of their Bachelor Degree in the year of application.
 - Bachelor degrees must be equivalent to an AQF Level 7 qualification and must be comprised of at least three years of full-time equivalent study (3.0 EFTSL).
 - There are no preferred Bachelor degrees or prerequisite subjects. We welcome applicants from all undergraduate backgrounds.
2. **Grade Point Average (GPA):** The GPA calculation is based on three years of full-time equivalent study (3.0 EFTSL) in your most recent eligible degree. For the purpose of the GPA calculation, eligible degrees include Bachelor, Honours and Masters by Coursework programs. These degrees must either be completed or due to be completed by 31 December in the year of application.
 - The minimum weighted GPA for consideration is 5.0
3. **GAMSAT:** Domestic applicants must sit the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test.
 - Applicants must achieve a minimum overall score of 50, with a minimum score of 50 in each section for their application to be considered.
4. **English Language:** All applicants must meet the University's English language requirements for admission.

Applicants are encouraged to visit www.science.anu.edu.au/study/doctor-medicine-surgery-mchd for more detailed information.

International

The Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program is a Level 9 AQF Masters by coursework qualification.

The application and selection process

1. International applicants must apply directly to ANU
2. Selection for interview is based on a 50:50 composite score derived from your GPA (weighted 50%) and Overall GAMSAT or MCAT score (weighted 50%).
3. Offers of a place will be based on a final score derived from the interview score (50%) and the composite GPA/GAMSAT or MCAT score used for interview ranking (50%)

International students will be offered a full fee paying international place.

Applicants are encouraged to visit science.anu.edu.au/study/doctor-medicine-surgery-mchd for more information.

Understanding the entry requirements

1. **Bachelor Degree:** As a minimum, applicants must have completed a Bachelor Degree or be in the final year of their Bachelor Degree in the year of application.
 - Bachelor degrees must be equivalent to an AQF level 7 qualification and must be comprised of at least three years of full-time equivalent study (3.0 EFTSL).
 - There are no preferred Bachelor degrees or prerequisite subjects.

We welcome applicants from all undergraduate backgrounds.

2. **Grade Point Average (GPA):** The GPA calculation is based on three years of full-time equivalent study (3.0 EFTSL) in your most recent eligible degree. For the purpose of the GPA calculation, eligible degrees include Bachelor, Honours and Masters by Coursework programs. These degrees must either be completed or due to be completed by 31 December in the year of application
 - The minimum weighted GPA for consideration is 5.0
3. **GAMSAT or MCAT:** International applicants must sit either the Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test OR the Medical College Admissions Test.
 - GAMSAT, applicants must achieve a minimum overall score of 50, with a minimum score of 50 in each section for their application to be considered.
 - MCAT, applicants must achieve a minimum score of 125 in each section to be considered.
4. **English Language:** All applicants must meet the University's English language requirements for admission.

Applicants are encouraged to visit science.anu.edu.au/study/doctor-medicine-surgery-mchd for more detailed information.

Admission dates



Date	Description
Late January	Orientation Week for commencing Medical program students
March	GAMSAT sitting International applications open
May	GEMSAS applications open GAMSAT results released GEMSAS applications close
June	International applications close Indigenous pathway applications close
July	International interviews Indigenous pathway interviews
August	International offers released Indigenous offers released
September	Domestic interviews
November	Domestic offers released
December-January	Late round offers released

*Please check the 'Key Dates' in our 'How to apply' section of the website for the most up to date timeline: <https://science.anu.edu.au/study/doctor-medicine-surgery-mchd>

Scholarships

ANU offers a wide range of **scholarships** and **prizes** to future and current students to assist with the cost of studying. There are also multiple external scholarship opportunities available. Here are some examples of what is on offer through the ANU.

Bill Nicholes “Willigobung” Scholarship for Medicine

\$20,000 per annum

Funding for this award has been provided by the late Bill Nicholes who bequeathed more than \$4.2 million to support students studying graduate medicine.

Eligibility: The applicant must be a domestic student, have been offered a place in the Medical program program, meet the minimum eligibility requirements, be able to attend an interview, and be able to demonstrate the attributes of a Nicholes scholar.

One of the two scholarships offered annually is reserved for a student who meets the medical program's Rural Background criteria.

ANU National Indigenous Scholarship for Medicine

\$25,000 per annum

The scholarship is to assist Indigenous students to study medicine at the ANU. No formal application is required as eligible candidates will be automatically considered for the scholarship.

Eligibility: The scholarship shall be available for award each year to a student who is an Indigenous Australian and is enrolled in and will remain enrolled in the medical program at ANU.

Ken Wanganeen Scholarship [↗](#)

Variable Value

The scholarship has been generously established in memory of the distinguished Indigenous Australian, Ken Wanganeen.

Eligibility: Applicants must be an Indigenous Australian AND enrolled in or will be enrolled in a graduate coursework program at the University OR enrolled in or will be enrolled in the Australian National Internships Program.

Peter Sharp Scholarship [↗](#)

\$25,000 per annum

The Peter Sharp Scholarship Program supports ANU medical students enrolled in the Indigenous Health Stream.

Eligibility: ANU medical students enrolled in the Indigenous Health Stream.

Elsbeth Young Memorial Grant [↗](#)

Variable value

The Elspeth Young Memorial Grants have been made possible by the generous bequest from Dr Elspeth Young to provide financial support to Indigenous Australian undergraduate and graduate students at The Australian National University. This support will be directed to costs necessary and incidental to studies, but not including any fees.

Eligibility: Applicants must be Indigenous Australian.

John James Foundation Scholarship [↗](#)

\$25,000 per annum

The John James Foundation sponsors this scholarship with the aim of assisting Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students to undertake the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program at the ANU. It provides financial assistance over a four year period.

Eligibility: ANU medical student who is an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person.

Other Information

Undergraduate pathways to medicine

High achieving students considering undergraduate programs at ANU and opportunities that can support their pathway towards the Doctor of Medicine and Surgery program should consider the following:

[Bachelor of Health Science](#): Each year up to 30 places are available into the medical program from the Bachelor of Health Science program. Eligible students will receive an offer to the medical program, contingent upon their weighted average mark (WAM), an interview process, an application statement and successful completion of the Bachelor of Health Science program. Up to 10 of the 30 places are available for students from a rural background.

[Tuckwell Scholarship](#): This pathway is limited to successful applicants at the Tuckwell Stage 3 selection interviews. Students are required to have declared upfront an interest in studying medicine in all three stages of the Tuckwell application process.

Higher Degree by Research

We are leading researchers

Medicine and health research has high value to our society and is of strategic importance to our nation. The creation of new knowledge through research and its translation underpins improvements in the patient experience, health service delivery and the health of our nation. The research can be fundamental in nature or be applied, directly addressing clinical problems, public health issues or how health services are delivered.

The ANU is home to world-class researchers at the forefront of medical practice and discovery. Through our two postgraduate research degrees, the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), you can join them in producing research that changes lives.

You will have access to cutting-edge research facilities and work alongside influential and innovative academics from across our campus, as well as joining our vibrant postgraduate student body.

How to apply for a PhD or a MPhil

Step 1: Expression of interest

Prospective research students first need to identify a research project and find an academic supervisor. If you are not sure which area of research or supervisor matches your interest please visit [our website for a list of sample research projects](#). Questions regarding Higher Degree by Research (HDR) in the ANU can be emailed to hdr.smp@anu.edu.au

Step 2: Academic supervisor

Email your proposed academic supervisor directly to enquire about projects and supervision. You may also submit a short research proposal. Once an academic supervisor is prepared to support your application you may proceed to step three.

Step 3: Application

Applicants should [apply online](#). Further information regarding the application process can be found on the ANU website.

Step 4: Scholarships

A number of scholarships are available and are awarded on a merit basis. You can also talk to your academic supervisor about alternative sources of funding you might access to assist with living expenses and tuition fees. Please note that research scholarships for international students are typically extremely competitive. Information on scholarships and the application process can be found on [our website](#).

Medicine and psychology research

Our research priorities inform health care practice and transform lives. We conduct collaborative, courageous, translational research that challenges assumptions and transcends disciplinary boundaries. While the research activities undertaken in the school are amazingly diverse, they fit within our three research themes.



End of life Refugee health
Pill Testing **Indigenous Health**
 General Practice and Primary Care **Social foundations of health & medicine**
Medical Education **Rural Medicine**

Society, Culture and Health

We explore the complex relationships between societal factors, cultural beliefs and health, working towards solutions for improved health and wellbeing for all.

Society, Culture and Health researchers apply a translational and applied social research lens to medicine, psychology and education. They bring together researchers from diverse fields, drawing upon expertise in social science, pedagogy, technology enhanced learning and teaching, and clinical training

Cardiology Diabetes
 Renal disease Haematology
 Orthopaedics **Genome science** **Cancer** **Immunology** **Trauma**
 Anatomical pathology
 Anatomical pathology
 Clinical Trials



Diagnostics, Therapeutics and Clinical Care

We advanced the knowledge and understanding of clinical practices in healthcare, with a focus on improving patient outcomes through both system-based and personalised care approaches.

Diagnostics, Therapeutics and Clinical Care teams decode the complexities of health and disease, providing best practice healthcare solutions for our region and beyond. At the heart of this research theme is the connection of fundamental with translational research, combining laboratory science and clinical research and practice to drive health outcomes.



Artificial Intelligence

Emotion
recognition

Vision

perception

Neuroscience

Decision making

Brain and
Mind Mental Health

Vision science

Memory

Cognitive
processing

Brain, Vision, Mental Processes and Health

We advance our understanding of how brain, vision and mind systems work in health and disease, and how this information can be used to improve human capability and wellbeing, and develop better therapeutics and treatments for neurological, eye and mental health conditions.

Researchers in this theme combine their expertise in psychology, neuroscience, retinal biology, clinical science and computer science to investigate the workings of the brain and visual system in health and disease. They use a range of techniques, including neuroimaging, electrophysiology, molecular biology and psychophysics, to study the neural mechanisms underlying cognition and visual systems

The Australian National University is a research-intensive university and supports transdisciplinary research across all colleges and schools. This enables Medicine and Psychology researchers to collaborate broadly across the university to undertake highly innovative and impactful research. Our school has particularly strong research ties with the John Curtin School of Medical Research (College of Science and Medicine) and the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (College of Law, Governance and Policy).



Australian
National
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School of Medicine and Psychology