Fully Funded positions are currently available for this program.
On behalf of The Benchmarque Group, I am delighted to introduce you to our Otitis Media and Aural Health Care Program.

Otitis Media (Latin) is inflammation of the middle ear, or middle ear infection. It occurs in the area between the tympanic membrane and the inner ear, including a duct known as the eustachian tube.

Otitis Media is a common condition in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island populations. Indigenous children are 10 times more likely to experience Otitis Media than non-Indigenous children. As many as 8 out of 10 Indigenous children could have a middle ear infection and hearing loss at some time during the school year.

The Otitis Media and Aural Health Care Program is designed to develop the knowledge and skills required for professionals working in Indigenous health to safely assess the aural health of individuals and implement best practice management guidelines.

The program uses at its foundation, the current Recommendations for Clinical Care Guidelines on the Management of Otitis Media in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Populations.

Assessing the aural health of a patient should be a systematic and structured process. It requires a comprehensive assessment of general client health incorporating all of the key structures of the auditory system. The process should include history taking (asking), physical examination (looking) and hearing assessment (recording).

The program provides successful students with the ability to apply a broad knowledge of management strategies, client centred education to health promotion and provision of basic care and advice in relation to the management of Otitis Media.

If you have any further questions about the Otitis Media and Aural Health Care Program please do not hesitate to contact any one of our team on 1300 855 568.

Kind regards,
The Benchmarque Group Pty Limited

Drew Sutherland
CEO
Course Outline

The Otitis Media and Aural Health Care Program is designed to develop the knowledge and skills required for Professionals working in Indigenous health to safely assess the aural health of individuals and implement best practice management guidelines.

On the successful completion of the program, participants should have:

- The skills and knowledge to assess and manage aural health in relation to a range of conditions, based on detailed knowledge of the anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of the auditory system.
- The ability to apply a broad knowledge of management strategies, client centered education and related physical functions to health promotion and provision of basic care and advice in relation to aural health.

Rationale

- To provide evidence based guidelines for individuals performing ear health assessments and procedures that will promote and support best clinical practice
- To promote standardised patient care

Pre-Requisites

The course is available to Registered and Enrolled Nurses, Audiometrists, General Practitioners, Indigenous Health Care Workers and Allied Health Care Workers.

Aims

At the successful completion of this program the clinician should:

- Have knowledge and understanding of the anatomy and physiology of the ear
- Be able to perform a comprehensive ear health assessment
- Recognise abnormalities of the auditory system
- Recognise the need for refer to medical staff or specialist
- Give the patient a comprehensive explanation of examination findings
- Document the examination findings and outcome in the patient’s history.

Program Delivery

The Otitis Media and Aural Health Care Program is delivered as a one (1) day face to face workshop. During the one (1) day program, students will be provided with an Assessment Portfolio which requires completion after the study day.
Workshop Outline

During the one (1) day face to face workshop, the following topics are covered:

- Review of anatomy and physiology of the ear and hearing
- Structure of the Ear
- Functions including how do we hear
- Performing a comprehensive ear health assessment.

Skills session

- Using assessment equipment
- Basic Hearing Assessment
- Condition recognition activity

Promote and Manage Aural (Ear) Health

- Promoting Aural Health to individuals and groups
- Developing management plans to meet the needs of individuals
- Co-morbidities, health and environmental considerations, abnormal aural health issues
- Referral to specialists
- Implementing aural health programs

Management and Treatment of Otitis Media

- Acute Otitis Media (AOM)
- Viral Otitis Media
- Bacterial Otitis Media
- Otitis Media with Effusion (Serous Otitis Media)
- Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media Glue Ear
- Adhesive Otitis Media

Other Conditions of the Ear

- Otitis Externa including malignant Otitis Externa
- Fungal/bacterial/viral infections
- Neoplasms
- Benign (Exostosis, Osteomas/Papilloma’s/Keloma, Granulomas)
- Malignant (Basil and Squamous Cell Carcinomas)
- Over production and impacted wax
- Traumatic injury - barotrauma, ruptured Tympanic Membrane
- Foreign bodies (insects, seeds, sand, stones)

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