

Why join the Adult Certificate

Adult psychiatry is an important and rewarding career path and most psychiatrists will work in this subspecialty. It requires a psychiatrist to have a number of specialised core skills, including in direct patient care and the management of broader systems. Skills with complex cases, with treatment resistance and co-morbidity are needed, as is management of interfaces with a variety of referrers. Acute adult psychiatry is at the cutting edge of mental health services where we provide optimal care at a crucial stage of assessment and treatment when patients and their families are most distressed and at risk. Private practice adult psychiatry is the mainstay of adult psychiatric services and encompasses the high frequency presentations such as non-psychotic mood disorders, anxiety disorders and personality disorders, often complicated by substance misuse. Adult psychiatry also involves rehabilitative psychiatry and longer-term care, usually involving multidisciplinary teamwork. Public practice adult psychiatrists often work in inpatient and community settings, often in an integrative service spanning both.



What skills will I develop in the Adult Certificate?

The Adult Certificate will prepare you for working as a consultant by emphasising a number of skills that are important in day-to-day adult psychiatric practice. As compared to Fellowship training, the Adult Certificate aids in the development of skills suited to many adult psychiatry jobs. There is a requirement for treating four adult patients with a structured psychotherapy, further developing your practical psychotherapeutic skills to broaden your skill base. The Adult Certificate requires participation in two committees or planning groups, developing your leadership skills, bringing you into contact with colleagues working outside of their clinical roles and developing your understanding of systems issues within mental health. The Certificate also requires you to complete five case formulations per 12 month FTE covering bipolar disorder, borderline personality disorder, schizophrenia, major depression and anxiety/trauma- and stressor-related/obsessive-compulsive and related disorders. This helps you to focus in more depth on the illnesses commonly encountered in adult psychiatry and to hone your skills in formulating a case.

How will the Adult Certificate help me in training?

The extra workload on top of Fellowship training is not onerous and you will be supported by your local Adult Certificate Director of Advanced Training (DOAT). Your local Adult Certificate DOAT will help you to choose adult psychiatry rotations that fit with your learning goals. One of the four required rotations can be in another area of practice with adults (with prospective DOAT approval), e.g. research, administration or addiction psychiatry, further developing your skills.

The skills that you are asked to develop in the Adult Certificate not only help in your career as an adult psychiatrist, they should help you to progress through training. In particular, leadership skills and formulating a case are common OSCE stations. A greater understanding and practical application of structured psychotherapies will help you in understanding and formulating patients' dilemmas, again a crucial skill for many OSCE stations.

How will the Adult Certificate help me after training?

The medical workforce is expanding. The number of psychiatrists are increasing. With this comes competition for adult psychiatric positions within the public system. Holding a Certificate of Advanced Training in Adult Psychiatry is likely to be an advantage in a competitive job market.

Some trainees are now choosing to move straight into private psychiatric practice after training. Public psychiatry does not always equip you well for private practice, where high prevalence disorders and the use of psychotherapies are the norm. The Adult Certificate will help you prepare for private practice psychiatry.

Lastly, the College is exploring the development of a Faculty of Adult Psychiatry, in line with Faculties for all the other Certificate programs. If you have completed an Adult Certificate, you will become a member of this Faculty without having to show or prove any other requirements. This could be an advantage with gaining a job, it is likely that this will be the largest Faculty within the College and membership may be an advantage in many ways.

How to apply

To discuss opportunities available and suitable training positions, contact your local DOAT. Trainees and Fellows-in-training who have been selected for a Certificate of Advanced Training must notify the College via the [Advanced Training Selection Notification Form](#).

Selection of applicants for the Certificate is the responsibility of the DOAT and may involve their local Advanced Training committee.

For more information visit:
www.ranzcp.org/AdultCertificate

Requirement	Stage 3 Fellowship (Generalist)	Adult Certificate
Rotations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 months FTE training in Stage 3 training posts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 months FTE training in adult psychiatry training posts.
Formal Education Course (FEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If available attend an adult psychiatry FEC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If available attend an adult psychiatry FEC, otherwise complete self-directed learning.
Leadership and Management (L & M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local BTC approved option for formal leadership and management training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local BTC approved option for formal leadership and management training. Participation in two committees or planning groups.
Psychotherapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of three (3) patients for a minimum of 6 sessions per patient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of three (3) patients for a minimum of 6 sessions per patient. Treatment of at least four adults with a mental disorder to completion with a structured psychotherapy.
Formative Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workplace-based assessments (WBAs) Observed Clinical Activity (OCA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of three WBAs to contribute to the evidence base for each required EPA. A mandatory one OCA every 6-month FTE rotation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of three WBAs to contribute to the evidence base for each required EPA. <i>Trainees must complete one mandatory OCA every 6-month FTE rotation for Fellowship.</i>
Summative Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entrustable professional activities (EPAs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attainment of eight Stage 3 EPAs; two per 6-month FTE rotation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attainment of eight Stage 3 adult psychiatry EPAs; two per 6-month FTE rotation.
Mid-rotation In-Training Assessment (ITA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2), held by Director of Training (DOT). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2), held by Director of Advanced Training (DOAT)
End-of-rotation In-Training Assessment (ITA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2), submitted to the College within 60 days of the completion of a rotation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (2), submitted to the College within 60 days of the completion of a rotation.
Fellowship Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The learning outcomes prescribed minimum expectations of what needs to be attained in the rotations and assessed on the ITAs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The learning outcomes prescribed minimum expectations of what needs to be attained in the rotations and assessed on the ITAs.
Final Qualitative Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500-750 word qualitative personal overview of Stage 3 training experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Trainees must complete Final Qualitative Report for Fellowship.</i>
Checklist and sign off	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed by DOAT and SATAP Chair, submitted to College.