



1-year position in Australia: Palliative Medicine Specialist, Tweed Valley Hospital (near the Gold Coast and Byron Bay)

An opportunity exists for a Palliative Medicine Specialist to work in Australia for a temporary 1-year (or 18 month) contract from **April/May 2026** while the existing specialist is overseas to develop a palliative care service in India.

This position is appealing in that it is located in one of the most beautiful coastal regions in Australia, close to the well-known Byron Bay. It is also very convenient to the Gold Coast and Gold Coast airport.

Tweed Valley Hospital is a 430 bed, major referral and teaching hospital located in the heart of the Tweed-Byron region. It provides a wide range of inpatient, day only and outpatient services in a brand new, state of the art facility. Services include emergency, trauma and critical care, surgical services, cancer services, women's care and newborn services, paediatric services, renal unit, intensive care, cardiac catheter laboratory and mental Health inpatient facilities.

The Tweed Valley Hospital Palliative Care Service has a well-established inpatient and community service with 2 full-time staff specialists appointed (as well as junior doctors, nurses and allied health). The inpatient ward has spectacular views to the ocean with whales visible during their migration season. The working hours are 0830-1630 Monday-Friday. The on-call is shared with five other specialists with 1 in 5 weekends on-call (phone on-call only) and one evening a week phone on-call.

The position would require seeing palliative care inpatients (consults and direct admissions), attending a weekly palliative care clinic, attending multi-disciplinary team case review meetings, teaching and supervising the junior doctors and medical students, supporting the community team and attending to consults at a neighbouring regional hospital (Murwillumbah Hospital) and small community hospice (Wedgetail Retreat). This workload is shared with another full-time staff specialist and is very manageable to achieve within work hours.

Annual salary is approximately \$240 000 AUD (before tax), depending on the level of experience, as per the Staff Specialists Award 2022 for NSW Health. Annual leave is 5 weeks (25 working days) plus extra for weekend/public holidays, alongside dedicated Training, Education & Study Leave (TESL).

To assist with an easy move and accommodation, the current specialist's house is available as a furnished rental. Travel costs to Australia would be at the applicants expense.

Applicants should meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply:

- be practising as a UK specialist in palliative medicine, and a member or fellow of one of the three Colleges
- be registered with a licence to practise and in good standing on the GMC specialist register
- be eligible for the Competent Authority Pathway for registration with AHPRA (Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency).

Australian registration for eligible UK doctors would be assisted by the hospital administration via the competent Authority Pathway with AHPRA (which is usually a straight forward process).

If you are interested in this opportunity for an overseas experience, expressions of interest (including a brief CV) can be directed to Dr Devi McAlpine devi.mcalpine@health.nsw.gov.au