

NT Prevocational Doctor of the Year 2025
Dr Phoebe Devereaux



Dr Devereaux is a dedicated prevocational doctor whose leadership and advocacy have significantly shaped the landscape of prevocational training in the Northern Territory. Her journey reflects a commitment to enhancing the experiences and well-being of her peers through innovative initiatives and active representation.

In 2024, during her internship year, Dr Devereaux served as a representative in the Top End Trainee Representative and Support Group. In this capacity, she actively conveyed her cohort's feedback on orientation, supervision, and educational programs to the wider committee. Her role involved gathering insights from fellow trainees and ensuring their voices were heard in discussions that influenced training practices and policies.

Building on her foundational experiences, Dr Devereaux advanced to the role of Chair of the Top End Trainee (TET) Committee and Deputy Chair of the Northern Territory Junior Medical Officers Forum (NTJMOF) in 2025. These positions enabled her to lead and collaborate on various initiatives aimed at improving the training environment for prevocational doctors.

One of Dr Devereaux's notable contributions was the development and implementation of the Junior Medical Officer (JMO) Ward Task List. Recognizing the challenges posed by after-hours paging, she collaborated with hospital medical and nursing leadership, ward staff, and prevocational doctors to create a system where nursing staff maintain a list of non-urgent tasks. This initiative aimed to reduce the paging burden on ward cover doctors, thereby enhancing patient safety and supporting the well-being of medical staff.

Dr Devereaux also established a tailored intern mentoring program, pairing new interns with existing doctors based on communication styles and desired outcomes. This program, initiated before the interns' arrival in Darwin, provided them with support and guidance during their transition into the workplace. The program received positive feedback for its thoughtful design and implementation.

In addition to these initiatives, Dr Devereaux contributed to various educational programs, including the "Tuesday Tips" series, reviews of intern and RMO orientation sessions, and co-delivery of orientation content. Her involvement in these programs underscored her commitment to continuous improvement in medical education.

Throughout her tenure as a representative and leader, Dr Devereaux actively engaged with hospital executives to provide feedback on policies such as the JMO relocation policy. She also led efforts to include written feedback in PMAS accreditation surveys, ensuring that the experiences of junior medical officers were considered in accreditation processes.

A passionate advocate for rural-based training, Dr Devereaux shared her experiences in Gove and promoted the "Internship in the NT" webinar to students, particularly from her alma mater, the University of Wollongong. Her efforts aimed to inspire and encourage medical students to consider training opportunities in the Northern Territory.

Dr Devereaux contributions have left a lasting impact on the medical community in the Northern Territory. Through her leadership, innovative initiatives, and advocacy, she has enhanced the training, support, and well-being of prevocational doctors. Her dedication continues to inspire her peers and shape the future of medical training in the region.