

## Sarah Johnson – Elective Week 4.

Hello!

Another week has brought another deluge of rain, and with a force five cyclone forecast further north I've been looking at changing my travel plans. But it's been a good week on placement!

I spent a couple of days in a rural hospital which was quite eye opening. The facilities available are far less advanced than those in the city hospital I've been in, even to the point of there not being air conditioning so the floor was slippery from all of the humidity! I was able to observe several cataract operations, and a couple of other eye surgeries. I found these really interesting, and the day reminded me of just how important our vision is to us. As an aside, isn't it fabulous how much money has been sent to the telemedicine project?

I've now finished my audit and my tutor has been really impressed with what I've done. I'm now finishing the literature search to relate it more to U.K. practice.

This week, I was also able to do a spinal anaesthetic independently. This isn't something a medical student would usually be expected to do, or even as a foundation doctor but under careful supervision I carried it successfully!

Last weekend, we visited Minamurra rainforest. It was great to be in a proper tropical climate and experience woodlands completely unlike those at home.

I also went snorkelling at a local bay, but unfortunately had to call the day off due to a washup of jellyfish– not very pleasant but to be expected in Australia!

All the best,  
Sarah

