

Position Description

Non-invasive Imaging Cardiologist

Classification:	Medical Specialist
Business unit/department:	Cardiology
Work location:	Austin Hospital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify)
Agreement:	AMA Victoria - Victorian Public Health Sector Medical Specialists Enterprise Agreement 2022-2026
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.
Employment type:	Part-Time
Hours per week:	16.5 hours
Reports to:	Director of Cardiology
Direct reports:	N/A
Financial management:	Budget: N/A
Date:	June 2025

Position purpose

Consultant Cardiologists are expected to provide high level Cardiology services within their approved scope of clinical practice as part of the Cardiology workforce at Austin Health.

Cardiologists are expected to be able to provide routine specialist Cardiology services and cover after hours “on call” as determined by the Director of Cardiology.

This is a senior medical position and carries with it the professional responsibilities of clinical leadership, teaching and training as well as administrative requirements.

About the Directorate/Division/Department

The Department of Cardiology is located on Level 5 at the Austin Hospital Campus. Clinical and administrative activities occur on Level 5 at the Austin Tower and Harold Stokes Building.

Medical staff comprises cardiologists, RACP accredited advanced trainee cardiology registrars, HMOs, sub-specialty fellows encompassing non-invasive imaging, pulmonary hypertension, heart failure,

structural cardiology, interventional cardiology and electrophysiology, and a number of higher degree research fellows.

The Cardiology department provides an extensive range of cardiac services to inpatients and outpatients. These services include consultations, echocardiography, non-invasive testing (ECG, Holter monitoring), coronary angiography and percutaneous intervention for coronary and non-coronary applications (congenital and valvular), electrophysiological testing and ablation (including AF ablation) and device implantation (pacemaker, ICD and CRT). The department provides 24-hour cardiac catheterisation laboratory services for acute myocardial infarction. In-patients are managed predominantly in the 30-bed Cardiac and Thoracic Unit on Ward 5 East. The department has links to the University of Melbourne and a major involvement in teaching, training and research at undergraduate and post-graduate levels, for both nursing and medical staff.

Position responsibilities

Role Specific:

To support the echocardiology service by:

- Performing and reporting inpatient and outpatient transthoracic and transoesophageal echocardiography including treadmill stress and dobutamine stress echocardiography.
- Performing and reporting pre-procedural and intraprocedural echocardiographic studies for structural heart disease and electrophysiology procedures involving transseptal puncture in the interventional laboratory. These procedures will include transcatheter aortic valve intervention, MitraClip and other structural heart disease interventions such as left atrial appendage closure and adult congenital heart defect closure (ASD, PFO, PDA).
- Supervising trainee medical staff in imaging.
- Assisting cardiac sonographers with image interpretation.
- Attending and managing patients through the general cardiology outpatient clinic.
- Participation in the ward service roster and providing comprehensive management of inpatients.
- Regular attendance at and participation in clinical and administrative unit meetings including audits and the structural heart disease MDM.
- Participate in the relevant cardiology on-call service as required.
- Provide a consultative service to other units as required.
- To assist and support the Head of Echocardiography, Head of Heart Failure Services and the Chief Cardiac Physiologist with service provision, teaching and training of staff.
- To assist the Director of Cardiology in administrative duties as required including the development and review of policies, procedures and protocols relating to non-invasive cardiac imaging, updating as needed to reflect best practice and evidence-based medicine.
- To assist in the evaluation of the delivery of services and in implementing appropriate quality and risk management initiatives.
- Demonstrate a commitment to working as a team member with peer medical, junior medical, nursing and other clinical staff to provide efficient, safe and quality care across the continuum.

Teaching, Training and Research:

- Term Supervisor (Unit Prevocational Doctor Supervisor). This role has been created for PGY1 & PGY2 doctors in accordance with the new National Framework for Prevocational Medical Training. The Term Supervisor is a member of the Senior Medical Staff who provides the main oversight of prevocational training with the department of Cardiology.
 - To provide support for prevocational doctors in cardiology



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- Completion of supervisor training requirements
- Maintenance of unit handbooks relating to prevocational doctors
- Ensure unit orientation for prevocational doctors in cardiology
- Completion of formalized term discussions during each rotation
- Receive and review unit evaluation feedback
- Updates to the Director and Deputy Director of Cardiology with matters relating to prevocational doctors
- Interacting with the Clinical Education Unit on a regular basis
- Direct involvement in the supervision, education and training of junior medical, nursing and other clinical staff, including participating in their performance appraisal and feedback processes.
- Supervision of research students including engagement in clinical trials and investigator driven projects.
- Participation in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching activities, including co-supervision of higher degree research students.
- Commitment to facilitate, conduct and participate in clinical and/or basic research studies.
- Participate in the auditing and review of clinical practices to improve outcomes.

Credentialing and Scope of Clinical Practice

Core Scope of Clinical Practice *Procedures, therapies and competencies that a Fellow from the respective specialist medical college would be competent in practicing. This only applies to practice at Austin Health and its campuses/services.*

The core SoCP in Cardiology includes:

1. Manage acute and chronic adult cardiac disease
2. Apply primary and secondary prevention strategies in cardiac disease
3. Basic and advanced life support
4. ECG and Holter monitor reporting
5. Basic treadmill exercise stress testing
6. Direct current cardioversion

This will be assumed if the Cardiologist has a Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in Cardiology or equivalent and an ongoing continuous practice in this specialty.

Extended Scope of Clinical Practice *Procedures, therapies and competencies that a Fellow from the respective specialist medical college would be competent in practicing after additional training, qualifications and experience as determined by the Director/Head of Unit.*

The Director/Head of Unit is expected to apply guidelines from the respective specialist medical college and/or appropriate state, national and international bodies. Where guidelines are not explicitly available, the Director/Head of Unit must apply 'best-practice' principles to ensure safe clinical care.

- CT coronary angiography and cardiac MRI
- Diagnostic cardiac catheterisation and coronary angiography
- Echocardiograms (transoesophageal and transthoracic)
- Electrophysiological studies and ablation



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- Individual Use of Intravascular Lithotripsy (IVL)
- Insertion of permanent pacemaker and defibrillators
- MitraClip Procedure
- Percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI)
- Structural heart disease intervention (Adult congenital heart defect closure including ASD, PFO, PDA; left atrial appendage closure)
- Transcatheter aortic valve intervention (TAVI)

Emergency/Life threatening situation – In a medical emergency situation, any medical staff member who is credentialed at Austin Health is permitted to provide necessary patient care, as best able, and outside their defined scope of clinical practice in order to provide life-saving measures and/or to prevent serious harm.

Please note – Recognising the dynamic and rapidly advancing nature of medical practice, if you believe a novel competence, practice or procedure should be included within your specialty's scope of clinical practice, please speak to your Head of Unit and refer to the 'Introduction of a New Technology / Clinical Practice' policy on The Pulse

For general accreditation the following need to be satisfied

- Demonstrated continuing professional development
- Regular attendance at audit
- Participation in one or more of the following
 - Teaching or research
 - Organising audit
 - Clinical governance
 - Other role within Austin Health but outside of the unit/specialty
 - College role

For each area where special expertise needs to be demonstrated

Some or all of the following criteria will be used to assess accreditation

- Specialist training or a specific fellowship
- Significant accumulated total experience in the field
- Recent experience (adequate number of cases per year in previous years)
- Satisfactory completion of an acceptable outside organisations credentialing requirements.

Selection criteria

Essential skills and experience:

- Must be a registered Medical Practitioner in Australia with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Hold a Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in Cardiology or its equivalent with postgraduate qualifications in Cardiology.
- Have appropriate training and experience applicable to the field of cardiology and the sub-specialty of non-invasive cardiac imaging, including echocardiography.



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- A commitment to quality, excellence and best practice in the delivery of cardiac services to Austin Health patients (including inpatient services, outpatient services, diagnostic and interventional services as appropriate).
- Capability in the development of investigator-driven research protocols and contributing to applications for competitive research grant funding or involvement in research studies being undertaken by the Cardiology department.
- Involvement in teaching and training of medical, technical and nursing staff, including at undergraduate and post-graduate level.
- Attendance and active involvement in relevant departmental, organisational and external meetings (i.e. College, Association and National/International bodies)
- Demonstrates multidisciplinary engagement, teamwork and collaboration.
- Have demonstrated ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
- Have demonstrated understanding of, and commitment to Clinical Governance.

Desirable but not essential:

- A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems and applications.
- An understanding of the complexities and challenges of public health.

Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- Must be a registered Medical Practitioner in Australia with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Hold a Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians in Cardiology or its equivalent with postgraduate qualifications in Cardiology.

Quality, safety and risk – all roles

All Austin Health employees are required to:

- Maintain a safe working environment for yourself, colleagues and members of the public by following organisational safety, quality and risk policies and guidelines.
- Escalate concerns regarding safety, quality and risk to the appropriate staff member, if unable to rectify yourself.
- Promote and participate in the evaluation and continuous improvement processes.
- Comply with the principles of person-centered care.
- Comply with requirements of National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and other relevant regulatory requirements.

Other conditions – all roles



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All Austin Health employees are required to:

- Adhere to Austin Health's core values: *our actions show we care, we bring our best, together we achieve, and we shape the future.*
- Comply with the Austin Health's Code of Conduct policy, as well as all other policies and procedures (as amended from time to time).
- Comply with all Austin Health mandatory training and continuing professional development requirements.
- Provide proof of immunity to nominated vaccine preventable diseases in accordance with Austin Health's immunisation screening policy.
- Work across multiple sites as per work requirements and/or directed by management.

General information

Cultural safety

Austin Health is committed to cultural safety and health equity for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People. We recognise cultural safety as the positive recognition and celebration of cultures. It is more than just the absence of racism or discrimination, and more than cultural awareness and cultural sensitivity. It empowers people and enables them to contribute and feel safe to be themselves.

Equal Opportunity Employer

We celebrate, value, and include people of all backgrounds, genders, identities, cultures, bodies, and abilities. We welcome and support applications from talented people identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, people with disability, neurodiverse people, LGBTQIA+ and people of all ages and cultures.

Austin Health is a child safe environment

We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. Austin Health has zero tolerance for any form of child abuse and commits to protect children. We take allegations of abuse and neglect seriously and will make every effort to mitigate and respond to risk in line with hospital policy and procedures.



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