

Position Description

Advanced Trainee in Addiction (Addiction Medicine or Addiction Psychiatry)

Classification:	Registrar
Business unit/department:	Mental Health Division
Work location:	Austin Hospital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify)
Agreement:	AMA Victoria - Victorian Public Health Sector - Doctors in Training Enterprise Agreement 2022-2026
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.
Employment type:	Fixed-Term Full-Time
Hours per week:	43
Reports to:	Medical Director, Mental Health Division & Clinical Director for Specialty Mental Health
Direct reports:	Prevocational HMO on rotation
Financial management:	Budget: NIL
Date:	2025

About Austin Health

Austin Health is one of Victoria's largest health care providers. We deliver services for patients across four main sites in Melbourne, in locations across our community, in people's homes, and within regional hospitals across Victoria. We are an internationally recognised leader in clinical teaching, training, and research, with numerous university and research institute affiliations. We employ approximately 9,500 staff and are known for our specialist work in cancer, infectious diseases, obesity, sleep medicine, intensive care medicine, neurology, endocrinology, mental health, and rehabilitation. Our vision is to shape the future through exceptional care, discovery, and learning. This is supported by our values which define who we are, shape our culture and the behaviours of our people. We aim to provide an inclusive culture where all staff can contribute to the best of their ability and strive to develop further. We recognise that our people are our greatest strength. We want them to thrive, be their best selves and feel engaged, safe, and empowered. To achieve this, diversity and inclusion is essential to our culture and our values. You can view our current Diversity and Inclusion Plan [here](#)

About the Mental Health Division

Austin Health's Mental Health Division provides care and services through a comprehensive range of teams to meet the needs of mental health consumers and carers throughout Victoria. Services in the Mental Health Division are located across Austin Health and the community. Employees may be redeployed within the Mental Health Division. All mental health services work within a clinical framework that promotes recovery- oriented practice and supported decision making. This approach to client wellbeing builds on the strengths of the individual working in partnership with their treating team. It encompasses the principles of self- determination and individualised treatment and care. The incumbent is required to perform the duties of this position efficiently to the standards of the department, including participating in the Austin Health performance appraisal program.

Position responsibilities

The addiction registrar has access to a broad range of training experiences in addiction care, organised around two specific training posts. There is provision for some flexibility, according to the registrar's training needs and specific interests. One post is based at the Austin Hospital acute medical and surgical wards, and at the Austin Drug and Alcohol Service (ADAS) clinic nearby. Again, there is flexibility in the post structure according to registrar preferences, the role can also include liaison with the Acute Pain Service and attendance at Pain Clinic; alternatively liaison with the Gastroenterology Unit, Liver Transplant Unit and attendance at Liver Clinic. All options provide access to patients who would fulfil criteria for the 60 cases required during Addictions Psychiatry Advanced Training, as well as mandatory rotations including Alcohol and Drug Consultation Liaison; Opioid Substitution Clinic, and Pain Clinic. This role provides a great opportunity to explore the role of addictions services in pain management in an integrated community and hospital-based setting. Other aspects of the role include development of skills in managing opioid use disorder in clinic and at the hospital bedside, assessment and management of intoxication and withdrawal syndromes in a hospital setting, and exposure to management of complex and severe alcohol use disorder with attendant requirements for support from a specialist hepatic service and statewide transplant unit. Another post is connected to the statewide Hamilton Centre, in which Austin Health is a partner. This role, based primarily in the community, will involve primary and secondary consultation regarding consumers with an addiction or dual diagnosis across Northern Victoria. Local consultation with Austin Mental Health adult and adolescent consumers will also be a part of the role. Finally, the Hamilton Centre role provides the incumbent registrar with an opportunity to care for consumers undergoing residential withdrawal through a partnership with Uniting ReGen. The role is an Advanced Training Position in Addictions Psychiatry (ATADD). Supervision will be provided to meet RANZCP requirements for advanced training in Addiction Psychiatry. The post is also accreditable with the RACP for Addiction Medicine subspecialty training. The successful registrar will have enrolled in one of the above programs.

Additional Role Responsibilities:

- Assess and treat patients with addictions and substance use difficulties, with appropriate level of supervision from the Consultant Psychiatrist and Consultant Addiction Medicine Physician
 - Provide high quality mental health and addiction care, incorporating recovery-oriented practice.
 - Provide clinical leadership and work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team setting.
- Role Purpose and Accountabilities



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- Liaise with health care professionals across teams and divisions within Austin Health as well as external to the Austin
- Participate actively in the weekly registrar education program
- Participate in an on-call roster for after hours and weekend cover as required.
- Engage actively in the education and supervision of junior medical staff and medical students
- Communicate clearly and effectively, including in documentation.
- Use electronic medical records effectively to prescribe, document and communicate. All Employees:
- Comply with Austin Health policies & procedures as amended from time to time
- Comply with the Code of Conduct and uphold our values, and diversity and inclusion commitments.
- Maintain a safe working environment for yourself, colleagues, and members of the public.
- Escalate concerns regarding safety, quality, and risk to the appropriate staff member, if unable to rectify yourself
- Comply with the principles of patient centred care.
- Comply with Austin Health mandatory training and continuing professional development requirements.
- Work across multiple sites as per work requirements and/or as directed by management

Selection criteria

Essential:

- Acceptance into either the RACP Chapter of Addiction Medicine Advanced Training Program or the RANZCP advanced training certificate in Addiction Psychiatry.
- Current registration as a Medical Practitioner with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Have completed a satisfactory Victorian Police record check and Working with Children's check. • Hold a current Victorian Driver's License.
- Dedication to delivering excellent service – to patients, carers, all colleagues (nursing, medical, allied health, managerial and non-clinical staff), GPs and other contact points.
- Demonstrated knowledge of recovery, and collaborative clinical practice and principles of clinical governance.
- A commitment to Austin Health values and to the delivery of high quality patient care. Desirable: • A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems.
- Demonstrated capability and interest in research.

Key Contacts

Dr Keri Alexander

Consultant Addiction Medicine Physician Austin Drug and Alcohol Service (ADAS) and Hamilton Centre Keri.Alexander@austin.org.au

Dr Carolyn Breadon

Lead Consultant Psychiatrist Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry Carolyn.Breadon@austin.org.au



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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

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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