

# Austin Health Position Description



## Position Title: Apheresis Clinical Nurse Consultant

Classification:	Clinical Nurse Consultant C (CAPR 4.1/CAPR 4.2)
Business Unit/ Department:	Apheresis
Work location:	Austin Health [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Heidelberg Repatriation [ <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Talbot [ <input type="checkbox"/> ] Other [ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ] (ONJ Centre)
Agreement:	Nurses and Midwives (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2024-2028
Employment Type:	Parental Leave Cover
Hours per week:	38 +ADO
Reports to:	NUM Ambulatory Cancer Services
Direct Reports:	N/A
Financial management:	Budget: N/A
Date:	January 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](#).

## Position Purpose

The primary purpose of this position is to be accountable for the provision of evidence based clinical nursing care of Haematology/Oncology patients in apheresis, act as a highly skilled clinical resource for staff and external clients and provide visible clinical leadership.

The role will lead, support and ensure evidence-based nursing care that meets professional, organisation, legal and ethical standards in order to optimize health outcomes for patients and their families. This position also liaises between clinical areas in a multidisciplinary framework, plays a pivotal role in supporting Quality Assurance programs and in developing and delivering clinical research and commercial outcomes in conjunction with commercial partners.

The position will hold an education and project portfolio that will be developed with the apheresis leadership team and is in accordance with the haematology and apheresis service delivery plan.

## About Cancer Services and Apheresis

### Cancer Services

Austin Health is one of the largest cancer service providers in Victoria. A complete range of services are delivered to patients and their families, including medical oncology, clinical haematology, radiation oncology (Austin Health and BRICC), cancer genetics, palliative care, wellness and supportive care programs, an active volunteer program and specialist cancer surgery (Division of Surgery). These are provided within an environment that integrates research, teaching and training.

All Austin Health metropolitan-based Cancer Services are delivered within the Olivia Newton-John Cancer, Wellness & Research Centre (ONJ Centre) at the Austin Hospital. This state of the art facility provides a model of individualised cancer care for patients and their families. Clinical services are provided in a range of inpatient, ambulatory and home settings. Inpatient services include an acute clinical haematology ward, an oncology/ surgical oncology ward and a palliative care ward. Ambulatory services include Radiation Oncology, Day Oncology, Day Oncology at Home and Apheresis.

### Apheresis

Apheresis services at Austin health deliver apheresis procedures for haematological and non-haematological indications, with an emphasis on haematological procedures to support the inpatient autologous and allogeneic bone marrow transplant program. The apheresis unit also provides support to recipients of bone marrow transplant via collection of donor products for use in hospitals nationally and internationally. Current expansion of apheresis services includes participation in clinical trial programs dedicated to developing new cellular therapies such as Chimeric Antigen receptor T cells for patients with malignancies.

The apheresis nursing team also provide a nurse led PICC insertion service for Austin Health. As a member of the team you will be expected to be upskilled as a nurse PICC

inserter.

## Purpose and Accountabilities

### **Direct Clinical Care;**

The apheresis clinical nurse consultant provides highly skilled and advanced clinical advice to patients, carers, and other health care professionals within the service. The apheresis clinical nurse consultant, facilitates implements and evaluates care management plans for patients with complex health needs.

- The apheresis clinical nurse consultant will assess the individual needs of the patient, their families and carers and co- ordinate relevant support services in hospital and/or the community including palliative care services.
- The apheresis clinical nurse consultant liaises closely with the clinical and laboratory haematology team to ensure the continuity of care and services to patients requiring stem cell procedures.
- The apheresis clinical nurse consultant will actively participate in the multidisciplinary team and will be involved in treatment planning.
- Provide advanced clinical skills and knowledge in apheresis
- Manage referrals for apheresis procedures and schedule patients appropriately
- Process referrals for Autologous & Allogeneic collections
- Provide clinical oversight to apheresis procedures within the unit
- Perform apheresis procedures as per clinical need and to maintain competency
- Liaison with stem cell laboratory to coordinate stem cell collections and laboratory processing
- Liaison with Australian Bone Marrow Donor Registry to coordinate and facilitate unrelated stem cell donor collections
- Provide data to the weekly Haematology MDM and attend when required to provide additional presentations.
- Initiates and participates / collaborates in the design and conduct of quality improvement initiatives

### **Education;**

The apheresis CNC contributes to the development and delivery of specialty related education programs.

- Ensures all staff are accredited, trained and operating in compliance with regulatory requirements.
- Participates in both formal and informal education programs.
- Identifies clinical education needs.
- Collaborates with others in the development and delivery of education programs.
- Develops educational resources for nurses and other health care professionals.
- Liaison with representatives from industry providers to provide ongoing education and support for Apheresis staff
- Foster a culture of clinical excellence
- Participates in the orientation of staff.

## **Research;**

- Ongoing self-education to maintain current knowledge about rapidly developing and emerging treatments in the apheresis setting
- Driving a culture within the apheresis team that values ongoing self-education and research participation
- Demonstrates a capacity to undertake/support nursing research, publication of work and public presentation within the local, national, and international healthcare community.
- Work collaboratively with medical staff to participate in apheresis research and disseminate results via scientific meetings and publication.

## **Support of Systems;**

The apheresis clinical nurse consultant participates in the formal processes for the strategic and operational planning for the clinical service. The role also involves the organisation and delivery of specialist consultant service.

- Maintenance of inhouse database of all apheresis procedures to inform service delivery
- Maintenance of Apheresis and other cellular therapy related Policies & Procedures on OPPIC
- Works in collaboration with the Nurse Unit Manager, Cancer Clinical Trials, external partners and clinical staff to ensure regulatory compliance is met and maintained
- Leads National Healthcare Standards accreditation and monitoring activity, including audits and quality improvement
- Leads NATA accreditation preparation & ongoing conformance with NPAAC guidelines for Apheresis
- Leads ABMDR accreditation preparation for Apheresis
- Provide secretarial support to the Chair at annual meeting with Eastern Health regarding Apheresis service delivery
- Presentation of stem cell collection data at Annual meeting with Eastern Health to ensure established KPI'S for stem cell referral processing are being met

## **Professional Leadership;**

The role provides leadership that facilitates the ongoing development of clinical practice pertaining to the apheresis service and cellular therapies.

- Acts as a role model and a skilled resource in services to patients requiring apheresis services
- Provides leadership and consultative support to the clinical staff caring directly for Hematology/Oncology patients on a shift to shift basis.
- Provides leadership in the ongoing review of current clinical practice, ensuring it is evidence based and bench marked against peers to ensure best practice.
- Assumes leadership roles, which promote broader advancement of clinical practice. For example, membership of committees, leadership of position papers and development of advanced nursing practice standards.
- Promotes adherence to the Code of Ethics for Nurses in Australia and the Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses in Australia.

- Leadership in branding and awareness of the role and building of internal and external relationships.

#### **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 principals 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 directed by management

## **Selection Criteria**

#### **Essential Knowledge and skills:**

- Division 1 Registered Nurse with significant experience in Apheresis/Haematology.
- Highly skilled in a broad range of apheresis procedures.
- Post Graduate qualification in apheresis or other relevant specialty nursing field.
- Experience in quality systems specific to Apheresis eg NATA, ABMDR
- Excellent interpersonal oral and written communication skills and the ability to provide, information and education effectively to patients, families, and carers.
- Demonstrated effective organisational and time management skills and the capacity to successfully manage competing priorities and meet deadlines.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Demonstrated excellent collaborative, leadership, and teaching skills.
- Experience in the development, implementation and review of policy, procedure, and guidelines
- A commitment to Austin Health values
- A patient focused approach to care
- A positive approach to ongoing self-education and skill development
- A flexible, innovative team-oriented approach to service delivery
- A positive approach to change and diversity

#### **Desirable but not essential:**

- Experience in strategic and clinical service planning
- Proven ability to implement change and develop direction in clinical practice by

the use of evidence-based research and best practice principles

- A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems, applications relevant to the Management of rostering and risk management reporting or as required for the role and/or department.

## General Information

### Austin Health is a Child Safe Environment

Austin Health is committed to child safety. We want children to be safe, happy and empowered. We support and respect all children, as well as our staff and volunteers. Austin Health has zero tolerance of child abuse, and all allegations and safety concerns will be treated seriously in line with legal obligations and our policies and procedures.

### Equal Opportunity Employer

We welcome applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. For any support throughout the recruitment process or further information about working at Austin Health, please follow this link to Aboriginal Employment on our [website](#)

## Document Review Agreement

<b>Manager Signature</b>	
<b>Employee Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	