

# Position Description

## Senior Clinical Psychologist G3

<b>Classification:</b>	Clinical Psychologist Grade 3 (PL1-PL4)
<b>Business unit/department:</b>	Psychology, Allied Health
<b>Work location:</b>	Austin Hospital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify)
<b>Agreement:</b>	Victorian Public Health Sector (Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists) Single Enterprise Agreement 2021-2025
<b>Employment type:</b>	Part-Time
<b>Hours per week:</b>	19 hrs
<b>Reports to:</b>	Clinical Psychology Lead
<b>Direct reports:</b>	0
<b>Financial management:</b>	Budget: NA
<b>Date:</b>	June 2025

### Position purpose

The Senior Clinical Psychologist will provide a psychology service to inpatients at Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre and patients within the Better@Home program. The role includes psychological assessment, psychoeducation and therapeutic intervention to neurological, orthopaedic, and amputee patients during their inpatient rehabilitation admission. For patients within Better@Home, psychology involvement is brief, and time limited with care provided in their home, or via telehealth.

The Clinical Psychologist will work closely with the members of the multidisciplinary team including medical, nursing and allied health staff to deliver evidence-based care to patients and contribute to management and discharge planning during a patient's admission. This is a part-time, permanent position.

### About the Psychology Department and Better@Home

#### Department of Psychology

This position is based within the Psychology Department, Allied Health Division, Operations Directorate.

The Psychology Department comprises Clinical Psychologists and Clinical Neuropsychologists who work across the three Austin Health campuses. The Psychology Department is committed to

promoting the highest level of psychological support and intervention for our patients. We achieve this goal by leading and excelling in research, teaching and the use of person-centred evidence-based practice. The Department supports a large number of post-graduate student placements and has a dedicated Registrar program for both Clinical Psychology and Clinical Neuropsychology. In addition, a dedicated education team provides planning, development and implementation of supervision, training, education and professional development for all psychologists. The department also has significant involvement in both independent and collaborative research projects through partnerships with Universities and research institutes.

## Better@Home

Better@Home is a multidisciplinary inpatient service allowing patients to continue their care at home where appropriate and preferred by the patient. It aims to help patients achieve their goals, prevent re-admission and in certain circumstances, avoid hospital admission altogether. Patients are admitted to the program from any of the three Austin Health sites (including ED), the community and other hospitals. The program has a grade 4 allied health team lead as well as a multidisciplinary team comprising nursing, medical and allied health professionals. The target length of stay is 2 weeks.

## Position responsibilities

### Role Specific:

- Conduct comprehensive psychological assessment and intervention to patients within the Better@Home service and inpatient rehabilitation wards at Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre.
- Provide psychoeducation and counselling to families and carers as required.
- Demonstrate a high level of clinical reasoning and advanced casework skills using a patient-centred approach.
- Formulate appropriate targeted treatment plans with realistic, achievable goals and implement appropriate evidence-based intervention in collaboration with patients.
- Work collaboratively with the multidisciplinary team to support best-practice care and outcomes for patients.
- Provide secondary consultation to the multidisciplinary team on patient management and coping.
- Active participation in MDT clinical discussions and team meetings.
- Involvement in service development and quality improvement initiatives
- Liaison with mental health and psychiatric services regarding appropriate patient care and management.
- Liaison with external agencies to implement appropriate community referrals to relevant service providers.
- Provide professional supervision to Clinical Psychology Registrars and/or Grade 2 Psychologist as required.
- Supervise provisional psychologist on higher degree placements as required.
- Other duties as directed by Clinical Psychology Lead.

### Quality and Risk

- Undertake and model evidence-based practice principles and interdisciplinary practices in the provision of care.
- Undertake activities and audits to support compliance with the national standards.
- Ensure personal compliance with mandatory training requirements.



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- The Senior clinician will support the Clinical Psychology Lead and Director in a range of activities including departmental planning and development, strategic planning, policy development and resource allocation as required.
- Maintain appropriate statistics, case notes and records, participate in Psychology department meetings as required.
- Participate in the development, implementation and evaluation of policy and service provision using evidence-based quality improvement methodology.
- Other duties as required.

#### *Professional Development*

- Participate in department performance appraisal, supervision and professional development planning process.
- Build and contribute to knowledge in their area of expertise and encourage teaching, research and mentoring within the psychology service as required.
- Support clinical teaching/professional development of the department utilizing expertise through, for example, direct teaching, team meetings and continued education forums.
- Undertake education and training to ensure clinical practice is current and evidence-based.

#### *Information Management*

- Record in patient medical files according to policy/procedures and Austin Health documentation standards.
- Adhere to Austin Health's policies for use of Information Technology.
- Meet activity and reporting timelines for all relevant tasks.
- Record accurate statistics/data as per policy and procedures.

## **Selection criteria**

### **Essential skills and experience:**

- A minimum of five years of relevant clinical experience in providing psychological services within health or hospital based setting and experience with chronic and complex health conditions.
- Demonstrated capacity to provide comprehensive assessment of patients with acute health conditions and therapeutic interventions to patients including high prevalence psychiatric disorders, adjustment, grief, pain and trauma.
- Demonstrated commitment to evidence-based practice and ability to translate this into practice.
- High level interpersonal skills that promote high quality patient care, and a proven ability to relate to people at all levels internal and external to the organization.
- Demonstrated ability to work autonomously and collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team.
- Highly developed written and verbal communication skills that provide effective liaison and consultation with a wide range of individuals, agencies and service providers.
- Demonstrated history of, and commitment to, ongoing professional development.
- A Victorian Driver's license



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### Desirable but not essential:

- Experience in the provision of staff support with strategies to assist with patient management, including knowledge in positive behaviour framework

## Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- A minimum Masters Degree in Clinical Psychology, and current registration with AHPRA Psychology Board of Australia and endorsement as a Clinical Psychologist.
- AHPRA Registration as a Psychology supervisor

## 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



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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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