Position Description

Austin **HEALTH**

Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Consultant

Classification:	CNC C (ZA7 / ZA8)
Business unit/department:	Respiratory Medicine
Work location:	Austin Hospital ☒ Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital ☐ Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre ☐ Other ☐ (please specify)
Agreement:	Nurses and Midwives (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2024-2028
	Choose an item.
	Choose an item.
Employment type:	Part-Time
Hours per week:	8
Reports to:	Medical Oncology CNC Manager
Direct reports:	0
Financial management:	Budget: N/A
Date:	August 2025

Austin Health acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which Austin Health operates, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Position purpose

The Specialist Lung Cancer Clinical Nurse Consultant will work collaboratively with teams from Respiratory Medicine, Thoracic Surgery, Oncology, Palliative Care, Radiology and Pathology units to support lung cancer patients throughout the entirety of their diagnostic and treatment journey.

This role will deliver a coordinated approach to patient care, with streamlined communication across the entire patient care pathway for patients with a diagnosis of lung cancer from referral to post treatment follow up.

The position is located within the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, Austin Hospital, Austin Health, a major public teaching hospital and tertiary referral centre associated with The University of Melbourne. The Department includes a 28 bed inpatient ward (5 West) located on level 5 of the Austin Tower (including a dedicated ventilation weaning bay and 2 inpatient sleep study beds).

Specialist clinics include multidisciplinary lung cancer, small lung nodule, allergy, pulmonary hypertension, sleep disorders and ventilatory failure.

Position responsibilities

Role Specific:

- Receipt and triage of referrals in a centralised process, involving nurse-led initial patient assessment, interpretation of CT and PET scan reports, and allocation to the Small Nodule Clinic or Lung Mass Clinic.
- Coordinate sequencing of diagnostic and staging investigation.
- Participate in case discussions at Lung multi-disciplinary meetings.
- Coordinate referrals across disciplines to ensure prompt time to diagnosis and treatment.
- Screen for supportive care needs and engage relevant health professionals, teams and services.
- Provide a central point of communication, support, and education for patients and carers
- Support lung cancer specific research.
- Conduct phone, telehealth, and face-to-face nurse led clinic consultations.

Direct Clinical Care:

- Plan and deliver education and teaching in clinical areas in response to nursing needs.
- Lead others to develop skills in comprehensive care planning to maximise patient outcomes and achieve goals of care.
- Lead and advise in partnership with multidisciplinary team, to address abnormalities in assessment information in all clinical situations.
- Lead and advise in partnership with multidisciplinary team to ensure goals of care and planned patient outcomes are achieved.
- Lead others to develop skills in utilisation and interpretation of assessment information.
- Provide leadership and guidance regarding discharge planning, ensuring alignment with patient goals of care.
- Provide expert clinical knowledge to point of care nurses through communication, modelling, and teaching.
- Recognise scope and limitations of practice and seek advice from other experts where required.
- Facilitate multidisciplinary care planning processes to achieve clinical outcomes and complex discharges.
- Lead the multidisciplinary team handover, huddles and advise on key priorities.
- Provide expertise in management of complex situations and generate alternative course of action.
- Provide expert clinical advice in collaboration with the patient/family and MDT;

actively communicate in the treatment decision making.

Education:

- Facilitate staff learning through development of cross discipline relationships and networks.
- Provide mentorship/coaching of other staff for career development.
- Actively participate in area of expertise by presenting at conferences, forums, nursing grand rounds.
- Utilise and maintain professional practice portfolio to plan for future continuing education, professional development and employment goals for self and others.
- Lead/coordinate local networks and forums to share and extend professional knowledge and build collegial relationships.
- Identify and implement strategies to support staff with their learning needs.

Research:

- Demonstrate in-depth and developed knowledge of the translation of research into practice.
- Lead, guide and support others to deliver evidence-based practice.
- Identify best practice research to address gaps in nursing practice.
- Create, participate and support others in the development of evidence-based guidelines.
- Contribute to local research activities including selecting appropriate research methodology, and data analysis strategies.

Support of Systems:

- Contribute to organisational level strategic planning and drives local strategic plan initiatives.
- Actively promote the Austin Nursing Vision and contribute to the initiatives designed to achieve the vision.
- Lead initiatives aligned to NSQHSS to drive practice improvement at the local level.
- Contribute to the development of staff skills to identify, plan and implement evidence- based risk prevention strategies.
- Support and lead others to develop and undertake evidence-based quality activities based on clinical audit results.
- Support others to develop insight into practice gaps and guide them to utilise resources/clinical audit findings in local clinical area.
- Develop others to be skilled in the ability to utilise all Austin Clinical informatics systems.
- Lead staff to adhere to organisational EMR policy and practice.
- Actively contribute to the development and review of policies and practice guidelines in line with their area of clinical expertise.

Professional Leadership:

- Influence nursing clinical leadership and provide advice related to NMBA Decision Making Framework across Austin Health and wider context.
- Demonstrate high levels of self-agility and maintain focus even during times of uncertainty and change.
- Demonstrate a commitment to deliver sustainable, excellent performance and accountability within the local context.
- Establish systems and processes to ensure excellence and accountability in delivery of safe, effective healthcare.

- Practice high-level communication and leadership skills consistently.
- Establish a culture that values and celebrates leadership.
- Create a culture of nursing practice where teamwork, diversity and inclusion are central to delivery of care.

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 skills and experience:

- Advanced respiratory clinical assessment skills
- Experience in care coordination and data collection
- Knowledge of lung cancer symptoms and signs; diagnostic and staging investigations; treatments; pathways of referral
- Knowledge of support services available for patients with lung diseases
- Evidence of a commitment to excellence in the care of patients, with demonstrated understanding of the care and management in an inpatient, ambulatory and community setting
- Experience and proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite
- 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:

- Relevant postgraduate qualification
- Membership with lung cancer professional bodies including Lung Foundation Australia, Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand, Thoracic Oncology Group Australasia
- Attendance at lung cancer conferences (nationally and internationally)
- Attendance and participation in lung cancer nursing forums

- 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.

Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- Registered Nurse registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia

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

Our actions
show we care

We bring
our best

Together
we achieve

We shape
the future

austin.org.au

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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