

Position Description

Respiratory Medicine Fellow – Ventilatory Failure and Sleep

Classification:	HM18-HM30
Business unit/department:	Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine
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:	38
Reports to:	Director, Victorian Respiratory Support Service
Direct reports:	0
Financial management:	Budget: Not Applicable
Date:	April 2026

Austin Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung 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 objectives of this position are to undertake sub-specialty training in chronic ventilatory failure management and provide inpatient and outpatient care, for respiratory, ventilatory failure and sleep medicine patients of Austin Health.

The Respiratory and Sleep Medicine Department provides clinical services to inpatients and outpatients, teaching of undergraduates and postgraduates and is extensively involved in clinical and basic research. There is a busy respiratory laboratory and an eight bed sleep disorders unit. Clinics include sleep, allergy and asthma, lung cancer (and multidisciplinary team meeting). Major interests and research include COPD, respiratory physiology, asthma, sleep disordered breathing, non-invasive ventilation, management of dyspnea and best practice use of oxygen therapy. Numerous opportunities are available for research through hospital based and Institute for breathing and sleep-based programs.

About the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine

The position is within the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at Austin Hospital, Austin Health; a major public teaching hospital and tertiary referral centre associated with The University of Melbourne. The Department includes a busy 22 bed inpatient ward (Ward 5 West) located on level 5 of the Austin Tower and a dedicated ventilation weaning bay and 2 inpatient sleep study beds. Specialist clinics include multidisciplinary lung cancer, allergy, pulmonary hypertension, sleep disorders and ventilatory failure. The Department runs the state-wide Victorian Respiratory Support Service, providing a state-wide service to persons diagnosed with chronic ventilatory failure who require support with home ventilation. The Victorian Weaning Unit (VWU) state-wide service provides support to other health services by accepting referrals of patients who are slow to wean from ventilation. The allied Department of Thoracic Surgery is the largest of its type in Australia and is a statewide referral service for thoracic oncology.

A comprehensive diagnostic investigation service is offered including a respiratory laboratory and two sleep laboratories. A comprehensive domiciliary oxygen service is also provided, including supervision of services to all veterans in Victoria requiring home oxygen.

The Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine has a strong research and teaching ethic and has close links with the Institute of Breathing & Sleep (IBAS) which is also located on the Austin Hospital site.

Position responsibilities

Role Specific

Clinical activities will include:

- Participation in the ward service, referral and on-call rosters for respiratory and ventilatory failure patients
- Sleep reporting including ventilatory failure patients
- Inpatient and outpatient ventilator implementation
- Outpatient consulting in respiratory, ventilatory failure and sleep medicine, including motor neurone disease clinics
- Telehealth and home visiting of ventilatory failure patients, including
- Contribute and supervise admissions to the Virtual VRSS hospital ward
- Other clinical duties as directed.

Additional responsibilities will include:

- Supervision of trainees
- Participation in departmental and hospital clinical, educational and audit meetings, including Grand Rounds
- Teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate trainees within the ambit of the Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine and University of Melbourne
- To assist the Director in administrative duties as required including the development and review of policies and procedures for the provision of services, 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.
- Undertake research projects in respiratory and sleep medicine
- Assist with administrative activities of the VRSS



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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.

Credentialing and Scope of Clinical Practice

Scope of Clinical Practice

- Primary Specialty: Respiratory Medicine

Clinical Duties

- **Consulting**
 - Practice in management of inpatients or outpatients with supervision
- **Clinics**
 - Take responsibility for the care of patients seen at the clinic with supervision
- **Diagnostic Reporting**
 - Formally report on diagnostic investigations with assistance
- **Procedural/Intervention**
 - To participate in bronchoscopic and pleural procedures with supervision
- **On Call**
 - The ability to participate in an on-call roster within the above roster
- **Teaching and Educations**
 - To interact with students, trainees and patients in the context of teaching and supervision
- **Research**
 - To interact with patients in the context of research

Credentiailling

- The applicant will be subject to standard Austin medical workforce credentiailling and onboarding
- Practice will be subject to ongoing supervision by senior VRSS consultants

Selection criteria



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Essential Knowledge and skills:

- A commitment to Austin Health values
- Registration as a Medical Practitioner with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) - (note eligible applicants will be assisted through this process)
- Appropriate tertiary medical qualification from either Australian Medical School or recognised overseas training
- Passed FRACP Written and Clinical Exams
- Have appropriate training and experience applicable to the field of *Respiratory and Sleep Medicine*
- Demonstrated commitment to high quality patient care
- Demonstrated teamwork and collaboration
- Demonstrated ability to communicate at all levels

Desirable Knowledge and skills:

- Current Fellowship of the *Royal Australasian College of Physicians* or equivalent.
- Experience in quality control and/or medical research including peer reviewed publication

Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- MBBS, Doctor of Medicine or equivalent
- Fellow, Royal Australasian College of Physicians or equivalent (desirable)
- Registered as a Medical Practitioner with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) - (note eligible applicants will be assisted through this process)

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.*



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- 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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