

Position Description

Senior Clinical Psychologist G3

Classification:	Clinical Psychologist Grade 3 (PL1-PL4)
Business unit/department:	Psychology, Allied Health
Work location:	Austin Hospital ☒ Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital ☒ Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre ☒ Other ☐ (please specify)
Agreement:	Victorian Public Health Sector (Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists) Single Enterprise Agreement 2021-2025
Employment type:	Part-Time
Hours per week:	20 hrs per week
Reports to:	Clinical Psychology Lead
Direct reports:	0
Financial management:	Budget: NA
Date:	Oct 2026

Position purpose

The Senior Clinical Psychologist will provide comprehensive psychology care to patients within the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Service. The role includes psychological assessment, individual therapeutic intervention, and group psychoeducation to patients in an outpatient setting. The Clinical Psychologist will work closely with the members of the multidisciplinary team including medical, nursing and allied health staff to deliver evidence-based, comprehensive care to patients referred for bariatric management. This is a part-time, permanent position.

About the Psychology Department and Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Service

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.

Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Service

The Austin Health Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Service offers a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to obesity care. Providing services across Austin and Repatriation campuses, the team is dedicated to delivering innovative, evidence-based care for those seeking surgical treatment for obesity. Austin health is a nationwide leader in the provision of publicly funded metabolic and bariatric surgery having been established for over 14 years, treating appropriately 180 patients annually, and one of few public services which offers both medical and surgical treatment options.

The specialist multidisciplinary clinic runs fortnightly on a Friday morning, from the Heidelberg Repatriation Campus and the service offers both inpatient and outpatient clinical services. The Service is a leader in research, education and advocacy nationally around metabolic and bariatric surgery and its members regularly teach at national conferences and courses.

The Austin Hospital provides extensive support and infrastructure to manage the caseload effectively. This includes access to interventional radiology, intensive care, diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy, and Hospital in the Home pathways which promotes transition of care to a community setting.

Position responsibilities

Role Specific:

- Support the implementation of an evidence based clinical psychology model of care within the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Service in collaboration with medical, nursing and allied health members of the team.
- Conduct comprehensive and specialist psychological assessment and intervention to patients within the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Service.
- Provision of group and individual treatment/education sessions.
- 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 interventions in collaboration with patients.
- Work collaboratively with the multidisciplinary team to support best-practice care and outcomes for patients.
- Maintenance of consumer education and service information material.
- Involvement in service improvement initiatives.
- Liaison with external agencies to implement appropriate community referrals to relevant service providers.
- Active participation in interdisciplinary clinical discussions and team meetings.
- Provide supervision to Grade 2 Clinical Psychologists and Provisional Psychologists on higher degree placements as required.
- Other duties as directed by Clinical Psychology Lead or Director of Psychology.

Quality and Risk

- Undertake and model evidence-based practice principles and interdisciplinary practices in the provision of care.



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- Undertake activities and audits to support compliance with the national standards.
- Ensure personal compliance with mandatory training requirements.
- 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/or experience with chronic and complex health conditions.
- Experience working within a bariatric service and/or with patients for bariatric management for chronic metabolic conditions.
- Demonstrated capacity to screen for, and provide, comprehensive assessment and therapeutic intervention of high prevalence psychiatric disorders and eating disorders commonly seen in this cohort.
- Strong skills in the provision of group-based psychoeducation and targeted intervention.
- Knowledge of behaviour change principles and experience working with patients prior to surgery.
- Demonstrated commitment to evidence-based practice and ability to translate this into practice.



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- 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.

Desirable but not essential:

- Experience in service design and knowledge of quality methodology.
- Involvement in, or support for, bariatric research.

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.



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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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