

Austin Health Position Description



Position Title: Senior Clinical Psychologist G3

Classification:	Clinical Psychologist Grade 3 (PL1-PL4)
Business Unit/ Department:	Psychology, Allied Health
Work location:	Austin Health [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] Heidelberg Repatriation [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Royal Talbot [<input type="checkbox"/>] Other [<input type="checkbox"/>] (please specify)
Agreement:	Victorian Public Health Sector (Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists) Enterprise Agreement 2021 - 2025
Employment Type:	Part-Time
Hours per week:	24
Reports to:	Clinical Psychology Lead
Direct Reports:	0
Financial management:	Budget:N/A
Date:	Jan 2025

About Austin Health

Austin Health is recognised for high-quality, person-centred care. We're renowned for our specialist work in cancer, transplantation, infectious diseases, obesity, sleep medicine, intensive care medicine, neurology, endocrinology, mental health and rehabilitation.

We're the largest Victorian provider of training for specialist physicians and surgeons, and internationally recognised as a centre of excellence in hospital-based research.

Our services are delivered to patients across four main sites in Melbourne, in locations across our community, in people's homes, and within regional hospitals across Victoria.

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](#).

Commitment to Gender Equality

Austin Health is committed to gender equality in the workplace. In developing our [Gender Equality Action Plan](#) we have been guided by the gender equality principles set out in the Gender Equality Act 2020 (Vic). We believe that everyone should live in a safe and equal society, have access to equal power, resources and opportunities and be treated with dignity, respect, and fairness.

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, therapeutic intervention and psychoeducation to patients pre- and post-surgery 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 Psychology and Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Services

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.

Purpose and Accountabilities

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 patient.
- 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.

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.
- The Grade 3 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.

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 by following organisational safety, quality & 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 centred care.
- Comply with requirements of National Safety & Quality Health Service Standards and other relevant regulatory requirements.
- 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:

- A commitment to Austin Health values: Our actions show we care, We bring our best, Together we achieve, We shape the future.
- 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 and supervisory 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 chronic 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.

Desirable but not essential:

- Experience working within a bariatric service and/or with patients for bariatric management for chronic metabolic conditions.
- Experience in service design and knowledge of quality methodology.

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

Manager Signature	
Employee Signature	
Date	