

Position Description

Hospital in the Home and Virtual Care (HITH-VC) Consultant physician

Classification:	As per contract
Business unit/department:	Hospital In The Home and Virtual Care
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 Medical Specialists Enterprise Agreement 2022-2026 Choose an item. Choose an item.
Employment type:	Fixed-Term Part-Time
Hours per week:	4 hours per week
Reports to:	Primary report: Director, Hospital in the Home and Virtual Care
Direct reports:	None
Financial management:	Not applicable
Date:	Commencing 8 June 2026, fixed term part time until 31 December 2026

Position purpose

The Hospital in the Home (HITH) Virtual Care Physician will be expected to provide comprehensive clinical care and high-level medical leadership to support the patients and services of HITH and Virtual Care.

The Physician will be expected to be able to provide routine specialist services and cover after hours “on call” as determined by the Director(s), HITH and Virtual Care. As all specialist physicians are expected to be able to provide routine clinical services, medical care within their scope of practice as a physician and may include cover “on call” after hours, a minimum level of expertise and set of skills is necessary. It is anticipated that this necessary minimum expertise and skillset will be provided by:

- holding Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP);
- holding certification of FRACP continuing professional development (CPD);
- and holding AHPRA specialist registration in the field of general medicine, geriatrics or another adult medicine specialty.

This is a senior medical position and carries with it the professional responsibilities of clinical leadership, teaching and training as well as administrative requirements.

About the Directorate/Division/Department

Hospital in the Home and Virtual Care (HITH-VC) is a multi-disciplinary team providing seven day/week home-based services and aligns with a key direction of providing more care outside the hospital. Clinical care includes usual HITH care types such as drain tube management, VAC and complex dressings, IV antimicrobials, post-surgical care, heart failure management and chemotherapy. Within HITH-VC a new model of care has been developed to support higher acuity patients utilising virtual care.

Virtual Care operates to care for patients with cardiac conditions including heart failure, atrial fibrillation and post cardiac surgery care, and haematology conditions, including leukaemia and autologous stem cell transplants, caring for them in their home environment, in a multidisciplinary team setting.

Virtual care provides multidisciplinary support in the home environment, supported by technology (including wearable devices). Primarily, care is provided to patients with cardiac conditions including heart failure, atrial fibrillation and post cardiac surgery care, and haematology conditions, including leukaemia and autologous stem cell transplants, with the patient groups benefitting from virtual support growing and changing over time.



**Our actions
show we care**



**We bring
our best**



**Together
we achieve**



**We shape
the future**

Position responsibilities

General clinical and operational accountabilities

- Clinical responsibilities to be provided as follows:
 - Provide comprehensive management and multidisciplinary care to patients in the HITH and Virtual Care setting.
 - Friday HITH consultant of the day including 0900 huddle on Teams with HITH case manager, HITH intake and HITH JMS and supervision of HITH JMS during medical staffed hours (0800-2000) including being available via phone to support patient care. This involves the care of general HITH-VC patients and is supported by HITH-VC infectious diseases physicians, cardiologists, haematologists and general physicians. A minimum of one-hour on-site attendance is required on Fridays.
 - Educational support and supervision of junior medical staff allocated to HITH-VC including term supervisor responsibilities for HMOs, BPT registrars and general medicine advanced trainees. Including regular check ins with JMS during their terms, collation of multidisciplinary feedback and completion of end of term supervisor reports and any training requirements (including entrustable professional activities).
 - To liaise with clinicians from other units to offer comprehensive care.
 - Supervise staff in the delivery of care to patients within the service/unit, ensuring that timely, efficient and high quality care is provided.
- To assist the Director(s) of HITH-VC in administrative duties as required including the development, documentation and review of policies, care pathways 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 improvement and risk management initiatives.
- Demonstrate a commitment to working as a team member with peer medical, junior medical, liaison nursing and other clinical staff to provide efficient, safe and high quality care across the continuum.
- Regular attendance at HITH-VC meetings to support patient care and unit development, including but not limited to weekly Monday HITH-VC Unit Meeting via Teams and regular HITH-VC senior medical staff meetings.
- Become familiar with both Departments' modes of communication (email, Microsoft Teams) as they relate to patient care and departmental meetings.
- Cover for HITH-VC consultant of the day role on public holidays falling Monday-Friday to be shared amongst HITH-VC consultants.
- Weekend work in a 1:4-5 roster including attending a 0900 HITH-VC huddle via Teams and supervision of junior medical staff on site (this can be performed remotely). This is remunerated in addition to weekly hours. Additional weekend work / after hour on-call arrangements may be required as the HITH and Virtual Care services expand, however, these will be discussed prior to implementation and remunerated in addition to weekly hours.

Teaching, training and research:

- Contribute to the supervision, education and training of junior medical, nursing and other clinical staff, including participating in their performance appraisal and feedback processes.
- Participate in both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching activities.



Our actions
show we care



We bring
our best



Together
we achieve



We shape
the future

- Commitment to facilitate, conduct and participate in clinical and/or basic research.
- Participate in the auditing and review of clinical practices to improve clinical outcomes.

Credentialing and Scope of Clinical Practice

re Scope of Clinical Practice – *Procedures, therapies and competencies that a Fellow from the respective specialist medical college would be competent in practicing. This only applies to practice at Austin Health and its campuses/services.*

To be defined depending on successful candidate and specialist training.

tended Scope of Clinical Practice

Procedures, therapies and competencies that a Fellow from the respective specialist medical college would be competent in practicing after additional training, qualifications and experience as determined by the Director/Head of Unit.

The Director/Head of Unit is expected to apply guidelines from the respective specialist medical college and/or appropriate state, national and international bodies. Where guidelines are not explicitly available, the Director/Head of Unit must apply 'best-practice' principles to ensure safe clinical care.

To be defined depending on successful candidate and specialist training.

Emergency/Life threatening situation – In a medical emergency situation, any medical staff member who is credentialed at Austin Health is permitted to provide necessary patient care, as best able, and outside their defined scope of clinical practice in order to provide life-saving measures and/or to prevent serious harm.



**Our actions
show we care**



**We bring
our best**



**Together
we achieve**



**We shape
the future**

Selection criteria

Essential knowledge and skills:

- A commitment to Austin Health values.
- Appropriate training and experience applicable as a specialist physician, with experience in general medicine, geriatrics, endocrinology, infectious diseases or gastroenterology highly desirable.
- Demonstrable commitment to high quality patient care.
- Demonstrable commitment to engagement, teamwork and collaboration.
- Demonstrable commitment and ongoing activity in research and/or clinical audit activities.
- Involvement in teaching and training of medical, technical and nursing staff, including at undergraduate and post-graduate level.
- Attendance and active involvement in relevant departmental, organisational and external meetings (i.e. College, Association and National/International bodies).
- Demonstrable ability to communicate effectively at all levels of seniority and with all craft groups.
- Demonstrable understanding of, and commitment to, Clinical Governance.

Desirable but not essential:

- Prior experience in home-based care and/or delivering HITH or virtual care services.
- Prior experience in health service leadership.
- A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems.
- Participation in health service meetings related to safety and quality.
- Experience with developing policies and procedures for health services.
- Prior involvement in clinical trials.



Our actions
show we care



We bring
our best



Together
we achieve



We shape
the future

Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- Must be a registered Medical Practitioner in Australia with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Current Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians or equivalent.

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.



Our actions
show we care



We bring
our best



Together
we achieve



We shape
the future

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.



Our actions
show we care



We bring
our best



Together
we achieve



We shape
the future