

# Position Description

## Hospital in the Home (HITH) Virtual Care Cardiologist

<b>Classification:</b>	Medical Specialist
<b>Business unit/department:</b>	Access and Demand
<b>Work location:</b>	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)
<b>Agreement:</b>	AMA Victoria - Victorian Public Health Sector Medical Specialists Enterprise Agreement 2022-2026 Choose an item. Choose an item.
<b>Employment type:</b>	Fixed-Term Part-Time
<b>Hours per week:</b>	5 hours per week (weekend on-call paid in addition)
<b>Reports to:</b>	Co-Directors, HITH and Virtual Care Director Cardiology
<b>Direct reports:</b>	N/A
<b>Financial management:</b>	Budget: N/A
<b>Date:</b>	June 2026

### Position purpose

The HITH Virtual Care Cardiologist is responsible for delivering comprehensive specialist cardiology care and providing senior clinical leadership to support the Hospital in the Home (HITH) and Virtual Care services. The role involves managing patients in virtual and community-based settings, ensuring safe, high-quality care that aligns with organisational standards and models of care.

The Cardiologist will provide routine specialist services and participate in an after-hours on-call roster as required, as determined by the Director, HITH and Virtual Care.

As a senior medical role, the position carries significant responsibilities in clinical governance, leadership, and service development. The successful applicant will contribute to teaching and supervision of junior medical staff, support multidisciplinary team practice, and participate in administrative and quality improvement activities to advance the HITH and Virtual Care service.

### About the Department

Hospital in the Home (HITH) is a multidisciplinary service providing seven-day-per-week, hospital-level care to patients in their home environment. The service supports a key strategic direction of delivering more care outside the traditional hospital setting, enabling safe, high-quality alternatives to inpatient admission.

HITH operates from Level 9 of the Harold Stokes Building, with a road-based team located at the Repatriation Campus. The service is supported by a comprehensive multidisciplinary team comprising nursing, medical (senior and junior), pharmacy, and administrative staff, working collaboratively to deliver coordinated patient care.

Austin Health HITH is a recognised leader in virtual care and has developed contemporary models of care to support the management of higher acuity patients in the home setting. This includes the integration of virtual care pathways that enable enhanced monitoring, specialist input, and timely escalation where required.

Austin Health is also a key partner in the Victorian Virtual Hospital Pilot, delivered in collaboration with the Royal Melbourne Hospital and local and regional health services, supporting access to specialist care across metropolitan and regional communities.

Virtual Care for cardiology patients within HITH focuses on patients with cardiac conditions, including heart failure, atrial fibrillation, and post-cardiac surgery care. Patients are managed within a multidisciplinary model, utilising remote monitoring and virtual review to deliver safe, effective care in the home environment.

## Position responsibilities

### Role Specific:

- Clinical responsibilities to be provided as follows on a 1:3 week roster:
  - Provide comprehensive management and multidisciplinary care to patients in the HITH and Virtual Care setting.
  - Three consultant ward rounds per week via video telehealth for patients receiving cardiac care under HITH Virtual Care. Each patient on the virtual care service must receive a minimum of one consultant virtual review every seven days.
  - Monday-Friday telephone support of HITH Virtual Care registrar, HITH BPT registrars and case manager in clinical care of all cardiac patients under both HITH Virtual Care and HITH (including but not limited to heart failure care, atrial fibrillation and post-cardiac surgery care) and assistance with prioritisation and triaging of new referrals.
  - Supervise trainees and junior medical staff. Daily support of HITH Virtual Care registrar and HITH BPT registrars to include discussion of any new referrals as well as daily check in / discussion of patients, and availability via phone for questions / escalation from registrar during business hours.
  - 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 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.



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- 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 and Virtual Care meetings to support patient care and unit development, including but not limited to weekly HITH Unit Meeting and regular HITH senior medical staff meetings.
- Weekend and public holiday on call to support HITH Virtual Care cardiology / cardiac patients. This will be phone support 1:3 weekends from 08:00-20:00 and be remunerated in addition to usual weekly hours (2 hours per weekend day). Additional weekend work / 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 performance appraisal and feedback processes.
- Participate in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching activities.
- Commitment to facilitate, conduct and participate in clinical and quality improvement research
- Participate in the auditing and review of clinical practices to improve clinical outcomes.

#### All Employees:

- Comply with Austin Health policies & procedures, as amended from time to time, which can be located on the intranet (The Pulse): [OPPIC](#).
- Report incidents or near misses that have or could have impact on safety - participate in identification and prevention of risks.
- Comply with the Code of Conduct.

### Credentialing and Scope of Clinical Practice

**Core 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.**

#### Extended 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



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best able, and outside their defined scope of clinical practice in order to provide life-saving measures and/or to prevent serious harm.

**Please note** – Recognising the dynamic and rapidly advancing nature of medical practice, if you believe a novel competence, practice or procedure should be included within your specialty's scope of clinical practice, please speak to your Head of Unit and refer to the 'Introduction of a New Technology / Clinical Practice' policy on the HUB (<http://eppic//Document/1193>).

**For general accreditation the following need to be satisfied**

- Demonstrated continuing professional development
- Regular attendance at audit
- Participation in one or more of the following
  - Teaching or research
  - Organising audit
  - Clinical governance
  - Other role within Austin Health but outside of the unit/specialty
  - College role

**For each area where special expertise** needs to be demonstrated

Some or all of the following criteria will be used to assess accreditation

- Specialist training or a specific fellowship
- Significant accumulated total experience in the field
- Recent experience (adequate number of cases per year in previous years)
- Satisfactory completion of an acceptable outside organisations credentialing requirements.

## Selection criteria

- **Essential Knowledge and skills:**
  - A commitment to Austin Health values
  - 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, with specialisation in cardiology.
  - Have appropriate training and experience applicable to undertake the define scope of practice.
  - A commitment to quality, excellence and best practice in the delivery of clinical services to Austin Health patients (including inpatient services, outpatient services, diagnostic and interventional services as appropriate).
  - Have demonstrated capability and interest in research. This may involve development of investigator-driven research protocols and contributing to applications for competitive research grant funding or involvement in research studies and participation in patient recruitment.
  - 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)
  - Demonstrates engagement, teamwork and collaboration.



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- Have demonstrated ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
- Have demonstrated understanding of, and commitment to Clinical Governance.
- **Desirable but not essential:**
  - A sound understanding of virtual care technology including clinical systems.

## Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- Registered Medical Practitioner in Australia with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
- Current Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians with specialisation in cardiology

## 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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