

Position Title: Senior Clinician Physiotherapist (Grade 3)
Advanced Physiotherapy Practice – Osteoarthritis Hip and Knee Service

Classification:	Grade 3 - Year 1 to 4 (VB7 to VC1)
Business unit/department:	Physiotherapy / Orthopaedic Surgery
Work location:	Austin Hospital ☒ Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital ☒ Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre ☐ Other ☐ (please specify)
Agreement:	Allied Health Professionals (Victorian Public Health Sector) Single Interest Enterprise Agreement 2021-2026
Employment type:	Permanent Part-Time
Hours per week:	Up to 24 hrs (0.6 EFT)
Reports to:	Director Orthopaedic Surgery Department Manager of Physiotherapy Stream Leader Physiotherapy Outpatients
Direct reports:	Nil
Financial management:	Budget: Nil
Date:	Commencing September 2026

Position purpose

This is a Fixed-Term, Part-Time up to (0.6 EFT) 3 days / week.

Role Purpose:

The Osteoarthritis Hip and Knee Service (OAHKS) provides comprehensive assessment and management of patients referred to Austin Health Orthopaedic Surgery Department for hip or knee osteoarthritis. The physiotherapists in the OAHKS clinic are responsible for co-ordination of management of these patients up until the point at which the patient is either ready for surgery or discharged from the service.

About the Directorate/Division/Department

The Physiotherapy Department comprises approximately 116 EFT staff at the Austin Hospital, Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital and the Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre. Clinical A physiotherapy clinical service is provided seven days per week, 12 hours per day to acute and aged care inpatient areas as well as outpatient and community services. There is a seven-day primary care service for musculoskeletal injuries in the Emergency Department.

The Physiotherapy Outpatients service provides care at the Health and Rehabilitation Centre (HRC). This includes individual assessment / treatment and a variety of evidence-based group treatment sessions in both our gym and aquatic treatment areas. The service has strong partnerships across Orthopaedics, Neurosurgery and the Emergency Department at Austin Health, including several imbedded Advanced Physiotherapy Practice positions.

Comprising of a surgical team with over 25 surgeons, 4 fellows, 9 registrars and 8 residents over two campuses the Orthopaedic Surgical Unit at Austin Health provides a large and vital service to the Victorian Community. The team sees over 15,000 outpatients and performs over 2,000 operations per year. The unit has embraced the trend of increasing specialisation within orthopaedics and is able to accept referrals and provides expert treatment across all orthopaedic areas.

Position responsibilities

Role Accountabilities:

Patient Care

- Receive and evaluate referrals to determine OAHKS priority or appropriateness for referral to other services.
- Conduct comprehensive, culturally safe history and examination for hip/knee OA
- Administer and interpret appropriate PROMS in accordance with the Orthopaedic surgery department.
- Determine indications for, request and interpret appropriate imaging using a systematic approach
- Appropriately identify, document and evaluate assessment findings, management plans, patient goals and clinic outcomes
- Communicate assessment findings, management plans and patient outcomes with referring doctors and other health professionals involved in the patient's care
- Facilitate timely access to either Orthopaedic Consultants when surgical consideration may be indicated
- Identify red flags and atypical presentations requiring escalation to consultant or ED.
- Support and direct patients assessed as not requiring surgery to suitable, evidence-based spinal pain interventions



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- Remain current with assessment and management options relevant to Orthopaedic Hip and Knee osteoarthritis presentations at Austin Health
- Act as a clinical resource for Physiotherapists / Physiotherapy students (on placement) in the Physiotherapy Outpatients Department

Credentialing and Scope of Clinical Practice

- Work with senior clinical lead to complete APP credentialling
NB: Credentialling will be undertaking “On the Job” following commencement in the role

Selection criteria

Essential skills and experience:

- Physiotherapist currently registered for practice in Australia (AHPRA)
- Significant musculoskeletal physiotherapy experience in the assessment and management of osteoarthritis and musculoskeletal conditions in an outpatient setting
- Excellent communication, organisation and problem-solving skills
- Commitment to physiotherapy professional development – musculoskeletal /OA management
- A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems and applications

Desirable but not essential:

- Post Graduate Masters in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy (or equivalent)
- Previous experience in an Advanced Practice Physiotherapy Position
- Exposure / experience in an Advanced Practice Physiotherapy Position

Professional qualifications and registration requirements

- Current physiotherapy registration in Australia with AHPRA

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.



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- 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.

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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