

Austin Health Position Description



Position Title: Oncology Clinical Nurse Consultant – Oral and Combined Radiation Therapies

Classification:	Clinical Nurse Consultant C (CAPR 4.1 or 4.2)
Business Unit/ Department:	Ambulatory Cancer Services
Work location:	Austin Health [<input type="checkbox"/>] Heidelberg Repatriation [<input type="checkbox"/>] Royal Talbot [<input type="checkbox"/>] Other [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] ONJ Centre
Agreement:	Nurses and Midwives (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2020-2024
Employment Type:	Full-Time or Part-Time
Hours per week:	38 + ADO hours
Reports to:	NUM Ambulatory Cancer Services
Direct Reports:	N/A
Financial management:	Budget: N/A
Date:	November 2023

About Austin Health

Austin Health is one of Victoria's largest health care providers. We deliver services for patients across four main sites in Melbourne, in locations across our community, in people's homes, and within regional hospitals across Victoria. We are an internationally recognised leader in clinical teaching, training and research, with numerous university and research institute affiliations.

We employ approximately 9,500 staff and are known for our specialist work in cancer, infectious diseases, obesity, sleep medicine, intensive care medicine, neurology, endocrinology, mental health and rehabilitation.

Our vision is to shape the future through exceptional care, discovery and learning. This is supported by our values which define who we are, shape our culture and the behaviours of our people.

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](#).

Position Purpose

The Oncology Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC) – Oral and Combined Radiation Therapies provides advanced practice nursing to oncology patients in allocated tumour streams who are receiving oral neoplastic agents or combined systemic and radiation therapies to optimise patient care and experience.

This includes:

- care coordination to navigate the complexities of their care pathway
- education regarding their disease, treatment, informed decision making,
- symptom and toxicity management and self-care strategies
- supportive care screening and referral
- collaborating with the Oncology medical staff, Day Oncology and DOAH ANUMs, other Oncology CNC's, allied health and wellness staff
- liaison with community providers including GP's, local pharmacies and palliative care services to facilitate ongoing management in the community
- providing professional leadership, educational, research, and systems support duties required to achieve the role.

About Cancer Services

Cancer Services

Austin Health is one of the largest cancer service providers in Victoria. A complete range of services are delivered to patients and their families, including medical oncology, clinical haematology, radiation oncology (Austin Health and BRICC), cancer genetics, palliative care, wellness and supportive care programs, an active volunteer program and specialist cancer surgery (Division of Surgery). These are provided within an environment that integrates research, teaching and training.

All Austin Health metropolitan based Cancer Services are delivered within the Olivia Newton-John Cancer, Wellness & Research Centre (ONJ Centre) at the Austin Hospital. This state of the art facility provides a model of individualised cancer care for patients and their families. Clinical services are provided in a range of inpatient, ambulatory and home settings. Inpatient services include an acute clinical haematology ward, an oncology/surgical oncology ward and a palliative care ward. Ambulatory services include Radiation Oncology, Day Oncology, Day Oncology at Home, Symptom and Urgent Review Clinic (SURC) and Apheresis.

Purpose and Accountabilities

Direct Clinical Care;

- Provide expert clinical advice in collaboration with the patient/family and MDT; actively communicate in the treatment decision making.
- Provide comprehensive clinical and supportive care assessments ensuring the individual needs of the patient and their families and carers are identified both on site and in patient homes
- Systematically screen and assess supportive care needs, and referral of patients into wellness and supportive care services as required
- Participate in the 'on call' service, providing SURC telephone advice for the SURC extended hours telephone service
- Coordinate relevant referrals to appropriate support services in the hospital and/or community including GP's, allied health and palliative care services
- Receives and triages referrals and schedules assessments, education and treatment within accepted time frames for planning of care
- Attend and contribute to MDM meetings, to ensure best patient outcomes
- Lead others to develop skills in comprehensive care planning to maximize patient outcomes and achieve goals of care
- Recognise scope and limitations of practice and seek advice from other experts where required
- Provide expert clinical knowledge to point of care nurses through communication, modelling, and teaching.

Education;

- Provide ongoing education to staff on their area of clinical expertise, regarding evidence, guidelines and procedures, including staff in-services and individual staff support and development
- Maintain ongoing personal and professional development by undertaking further education as required, attending lectures and meetings
- Maintains and updates own professional development portfolio to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to learning and best practice.
- Lead/coordinate local networks and forums to share and extend professional knowledge and build collegial relationships
- Provides clinical nursing expertise through knowledge of research, new developments and evidence based practice in discipline and specific and related areas

Research;

- Identify opportunities for quality improvement in the care of patients through literature review, observation, audits, incidents, staff and patient feedback, and work collaboratively with the multi-disciplinary team to address quality and service improvement issues identified

- Identifies opportunities for process redesign and to support staff in the implementation of redesign projects and activities
- Actively contributes to the development and review of policies and practice guidelines in line with their area of clinical expertise
- Actively develops and maintains patient information resources in their area of clinical expertise
- Initiate or be involved in clinical research projects relevant to this area of practice
- Actively involved in the collection of data for purpose including clinical registries

Support of Systems;

- Understand and optimise the utilisation of Austin Health Clinical Informatics systems including Cerner Oncology
- Actively collect accurate activity and clinical data where required, and maximise opportunities for utilization of data for quality, service improvement, research and funding purposes
- Contribute to organisational level strategic planning and drives local strategic plan initiatives.
- Actively contributes to the development and review of policies and practice guidelines in line with their area of clinical expertise.

Professional Leadership;

- Acts as a clinical resource and provides an advisory, informing, educating and mentoring function to clinicians within Austin Health
- Acts as a “champion” for Oncology patient care throughout the organisation, providing clinical nursing expertise and direction in line with clinical standards, policies and procedures
- Communicates information and expectations clearly and concisely in a way that builds effective and collaborative working relationships with others
- Provides leadership in clinical situations demanding action that meets the needs of patients, staff, and organisation
- Provides efficient customer focused service commensurate with senior status and role
- Maintains a professional demeanor and serves as a role model for all nursing staff, both as a clinician and in line with behavioral expectations
- Demonstrates strong mentoring skills within the nursing and multidisciplinary team and support succession planning
- Maintains and fosters relationships with appropriate internal and external stakeholders in area of clinical expertise
- Actively participates in the nursing professional network, including the Advance Practice Nursing collaborative, and the implementation of the Nursing Professional Practice Framework

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. Escalate concerns regarding safety, quality and risk to the appropriate staff member, if unable to rectify yourself
- Comply with the principals of patient-centred care
- 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
- Registered Nurse registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia
- Post graduate qualification in Cancer nursing
- Significant experience in managing systemic and oral cancer therapies, and accredited in antineoplastic drug administration and handling in the ambulatory setting
- Experience working in a senior cancer clinical nursing role
- Evidence of a commitment to excellence in the care of patients with cancer, with demonstrated understanding of the care and management in an inpatient, ambulatory and community setting
- Excellent organisation, time-management skills and attention to detail
- Excellent written and verbal communication and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated analytical and problem-solving ability
- Ability to work collaboratively as a team member and autonomously to meet patient needs and the goals of the unit
- A positive approach to ongoing self-education and skill development
- A flexible, innovative team-oriented approach to service delivery
- A positive approach to change and diversity
- A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems

Desirable but not essential:

- Experience in nursing research and research skills
- Previous experience in a similar role

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	