

Austin Health Position Description



Position Title: Gastroenterologist

Classification:	Gastroenterologist
Business Unit/ Department:	Department of Gastroenterology
Work location:	Austin Health <input type="checkbox"/> Heidelberg Repatriation <input type="checkbox"/> Royal Talbot <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (please specify)
Agreement:	AMA Victoria - Victorian Public Health Sector Medical Specialists Enterprise Agreement 2022- 2026
Employment Type:	Fixed-Term Part-Time
Hours per week:	As per contract
Reports to:	Director of Gastroenterology
Direct Reports:	N/A
Financial management:	Budget: N/A
Date:	November 2024

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

A senior medical specialist is required to perform the duties of the position efficiently, according to the policies and procedures of the Department of Gastroenterology, the Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) service and standards of the Endoscopy Unit including participating in the Austin Health performance appraisal programme.

Austin Health is working to become a world class centre that integrates IBD with intestinal rehabilitation and intestinal transplantation, built on best practice and research, that is sustainable and delivered by a highly skilled and engaged multidisciplinary team.

About the Department

Austin Health is a general teaching hospital comprising the Austin Hospital and Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital; it is also associated with the University of Melbourne. The Gastroenterology Unit sits within the SAPM Division, part of the Operations Directorate, comprises the following departments which operate across both the Austin Hospital and Repatriation Hospital sites

- Theatre Operations
- Theatre Support
- Anaesthetics
- Surgical Access
- Cardiology
- Catheter Laboratory and Cardiac Diagnostics
- Cardiac Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
- Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
- Thoracic Surgery
- Orthopaedic Surgery & OAHKS
- Colorectal Surgery
- Upper GI Surgery/Endocrine
- ENT Surgery
- Gastroenterology and Hepatology
- Endoscopy
- Ophthalmology
- Urology
- Gynaecological surgery
- Breast Surgery and Surgical Oncology
- Hepatobiliary Transplant
- Renal Transplant Surgery
- Liver & Intestinal Transplant

The Gastroenterology Unit provides high level Gastroenterology services to patients across Austin Health. Emergency and inpatient services are based at the Austin Hospital while Specialist Clinics and Endoscopy are based at both the Austin Hospital and

Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital sites. In addition, a consultative service is provided for other units within the health service.

The sub-specialties provided within Gastroenterology are: Endoscopy, Intestinal failure, Hepatology and Inflammatory Bowel Disease.

The Endoscopy service undertakes approximately 10,500 upper, lower and advanced endoscopic procedures per year. The Austin Gastroenterology unit provides outreach service for the treatment of Hepatitis C linked to mental health and primary health services at three external locations (Banyule, Wallan and Kyneton).

The unit provides specialist Transplant services and an after-hours on-call service. The unit maintains an ongoing commitment to research, teaching and training. The Gastroenterology Unit is supported by a Divisional Manager, Quality Coordinator, Finance, HR and Business Support as part of the SAPM Division.

Purpose and Accountabilities

Role Specific:

- Provide comprehensive gastroenterological management for inpatients and outpatients, particularly those patients with inflammatory bowel disease.
- Participate in Unit meetings and Audit activities.
- Manage the endoscopy waiting list equitably.
- Provide an on-call service as required.
- Provide a consultative service to other Units as required.
- Participate in the development and review of policies and procedures for the provision of services, updating as needed to reflect best practice and evidence-based medicine
- Participate in the evaluation of the delivery of services and in implementing appropriate quality and risk management initiatives.
- Demonstrate a commitment to working as a team member with peer medical, junior medical, nursing and other clinical staff to provide efficient, safe and quality care across the continuum.

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.
- 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.

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

People Management Roles:

- Maintain an understanding of individual responsibility for safety, quality & risk and actively contribute to organisational quality and safety initiatives
- Ensure incident management systems are applied and a response to local issues and performance improvement occurs
- Support staff under management to comply with policies, procedures and mandatory training and continuing professional development requirements

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.

1. Colonoscopy, including ongoing commitment to recertification from the Conjoint Committee for the Recognition of Training in Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
2. Monitor and manage a sedated patient during endoscopy
3. Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (including urgent UGI endoscopy to identify the site of bleeding and endoscopic haemostasis for portal hypertensive bleeding and peptic ulcer bleeding)

This will be assumed if the Gastroenterologist has a Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians or equivalent and an ongoing continuous practice in this specialty.

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 Head of Unit* has been completed. This only applies to practice at Austin Health and its campuses.

*The Head of Unit is expected to apply guidelines from the respective specialist medical college and appropriate state, national and international guidelines.

1. Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangio-Pancreatography (ERCP)
2. Small Intestine Balloon Enteroscopy
3. Capsule Endoscopy
4. Endoscopic Ultrasound
5. Intestinal Ultrasound

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.

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
 - o Teaching or research
 - o Organising audit
 - o Clinical governance
 - o Other role within Austin Health but outside of the unit/specialty
 - o 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
- A higher degree
- 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).

- Hold a Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (accredited by the SAS of Gastroenterology) or its equivalent.
- Must have completed RACP SPDP certificate
- Have appropriate training and experience applicable to the field of gastroenterology and inflammatory bowel disease.
- Demonstrated commitment to high quality patient care.
- Demonstrated competency in upper gastrointestinal endoscopy and colonoscopy.
- Demonstrated capability and interest in research such as completion of a higher degree, an established track record in research or other capacity to establish an independent research program.
- Demonstrated commitment to teaching.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate at all levels.

Desirable but not essential:

- A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems.
- Sub-specialty interests strongly encouraged such as experience in the field of intestinal failure or advanced endoscopic skills e.g. Able to perform ERCP

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	

