

Position Description

Classification:	As per contract
Business unit/department:	Neurology
Work location:	Austin Hospital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital <input checked="" 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:	Sessional
Hours per week:	3.5 hours per week
Reports to:	Director of Neurology
Direct reports:	N/A
Financial management:	Budget: N/A
Date:	04/05/2026

Position purpose

The Vascular Neurology Consultant will provide specialist clinical care for patients with cerebrovascular disease, with two principal roles:

- Medical oversight of the Neurodiagnostics Laboratory, encompassing carotid duplex ultrasound, transcranial Doppler (TCD), and right-to-left shunt / patent foramen ovale (PFO) detection studies. Day-to-day operations of the laboratory are managed by the Neurodiagnostics Lab Manager; this role provides medical and clinical governance input only.
- Clinical and academic leadership of a dedicated Vascular Neurology subspecialty clinic, with development of a focused clinical and translational research program in an area of neurovascular medicine of the appointee's choosing (for example, but not limited to, cerebral amyloid angiopathy, vascular cognitive impairment, intracerebral haemorrhage, neurocardiology, or cerebral vasculopathies).

The role is intended to support the appointee in establishing a recognised area of subspecialty clinical and research expertise. The successful applicant will be expected to define and develop a research-active subspecialty clinic aligned with their own scholarly interests and the strategic priorities of the Stroke Service, and to strengthen the Department's profile in cerebrovascular medicine.

About the Neurology Department

The Department of Neurology is one of the largest Neurology units in Victoria. It has established an international reputation in Neurology, Movement Disorders, Stroke and Epilepsy. The Department of Neurology is part of the Division of Specialty Medicine and Statewide Services. The Stroke Service provides comprehensive hyperacute, acute, subacute and rehabilitation care, including endovascular thrombectomy, with active programs in clinical research, neurosonology and cerebrovascular

neuroimaging. The Neurodiagnostics Laboratory provides a high-volume neurosonology service supporting both inpatient and ambulatory care, and is central to the diagnostic workup of stroke, TIA, cryptogenic stroke and patients being considered for PFO closure. The Department supports the development of new subspecialty clinical-academic streams in vascular neurology, and is well positioned to host new research clinics aligned with the appointee's interests.

Position responsibilities

Role specific – Clinical Vascular Neurology:

- Provide specialist vascular neurology assessment and treatment for patients with TIA, ischaemic stroke, intracerebral haemorrhage (ICH), cerebral small vessel disease, vascular cognitive impairment, cerebral venous thrombosis, cerebral vasculopathies (including primary angiitis of the CNS, RCVS, moyamoya, fibromuscular dysplasia) and other cerebrovascular disorders.
- Lead a dedicated subspecialty Vascular Neurology Outpatient Clinic, including streams for stroke / TIA prevention and complex cerebrovascular disease, with capacity to develop a dedicated subspecialty research clinic in the appointee's chosen area of focus.
- Participate in stroke service multidisciplinary meetings, neurovascular MDT, and departmental clinical governance activities.

Role specific – Neurodiagnostics Laboratory medical oversight:

The Neurodiagnostics Laboratory is operationally managed by the Neurodiagnostics Lab Manager, who is responsible for the day-to-day running of the laboratory including rostering, technologist supervision, equipment, and accreditation administration. The Vascular Neurology Consultant provides medical oversight only (indicative 1 hour per week), working in close collaboration with the Lab Manager and Director of Neurology.

- Provide clinical and medical governance oversight of carotid and vertebral artery duplex ultrasound, transcranial Doppler (TCD) including emboli detection and vasomotor reactivity studies, and agitated saline contrast (bubble) studies for right-to-left shunt / PFO detection.
- Review and verify clinically complex or borderline neurosonology studies, and provide medical input on study interpretation and reporting where required.
- Contribute medical input into the development and review of clinical scanning and reporting protocols, in collaboration with the Lab Manager.
- Provide medical input into laboratory quality assurance, audit and continuous improvement activities led by the Lab Manager.
- Act as a medical point of contact for clinical queries from referring clinicians and the broader Stroke Service in relation to neurodiagnostic studies.
- Demonstrated leadership capability and commitment to growing ultrasound services in response to evolving clinical needs, including advocacy for service advancement and continuous improvement.



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- Lead and support clinical research in cerebrovascular ultrasound, including service development projects, validation of new or emerging techniques, and integration of ultrasound research with the broader Stroke Service research program.

Role specific – Research and academic leadership:

The appointee will be supported to develop a focused clinical and translational research program in an area of neurovascular medicine of their choosing. Possible focus areas include, but are not limited to, cerebral amyloid angiopathy, vascular cognitive impairment, intracerebral haemorrhage, neurocardiology, cerebral vasculopathies, neurosonology and microembolic disease, secondary stroke prevention, or cryptogenic stroke and PFO. The chosen area of focus is expected to be aligned with the appointee's scholarly interests and complementary to existing departmental research strengths.

- Define, develop and lead a clinically embedded subspecialty research clinic and associated research program in the chosen area, integrated with the broader Stroke Service.
- Establish and maintain prospective clinical registries, biobanks or imaging cohorts as appropriate to the chosen area of focus.
- Pursue competitive peer-reviewed research funding (NHMRC, MRFF, Stroke Foundation, philanthropic and industry-collaborative funding).
- Contribute to investigator-initiated and multicentre clinical trials in cerebrovascular disease.
- Build and sustain collaborations with relevant academic partners (university affiliates, research institutes such as the Florey, Stroke Foundation networks, and national / international consortia) to support program growth.
- Disseminate research outputs through peer-reviewed publications and at national and international scientific meetings.

Role specific – General:

- Assist the Director of Neurology in administrative duties as required, including development and review of policies and procedures for the provision of services, updating as needed to reflect best practice and evidence-based medicine.
- Assist in the evaluation of the delivery of services and in implementing appropriate quality and risk management initiatives, particularly across the stroke service and Neurodiagnostics Laboratory.
- Demonstrate a commitment to working as a team member with peer medical, junior medical, nursing, sonography, allied health 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 staff, basic and advanced trainees in neurology (including those undertaking stroke / vascular neurology fellowship training), neurosonographers and other clinical staff, including participating in their performance appraisal and feedback processes.
- Participate in both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching activities.
- Supervise higher degree research students (Honours, MD, PhD) in neurovascular medicine.
- Commitment to facilitate, conduct and participate in clinical and / or basic research, with a particular focus on neurovascular disease.
- Participate in auditing and reviewing clinical practices to improve clinical outcomes, including audit of neurosonology laboratory performance.

Selection criteria

Essential knowledge and skills:

- A commitment to Austin Health values.
- Registered medical practitioner in Australia with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).



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- Current Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP) in Neurology, or equivalent.
- Subspecialty fellowship training and / or demonstrated equivalent experience in vascular neurology / stroke medicine.
- Demonstrated independent expertise in neurosonology, including: carotid and vertebral duplex ultrasound; transcranial Doppler (TCD), including emboli detection and vasomotor reactivity studies; and agitated saline contrast studies for right-to-left shunt / PFO detection.
- Recognised neurosonology credentialing or equivalent demonstrated competency (e.g., ASN Neurosonology certification, RVT, ESNCH/ANIM accreditation), or willingness and capacity to obtain within an agreed timeframe.
- Demonstrated commitment to high quality patient care.
- Demonstrated commitment and ongoing activity in research and / or clinical audit, with a track record of peer-reviewed publications in neurovascular medicine.
- Demonstrated capability and a clearly articulated vision to lead and develop a clinical research program and research-active subspecialty clinic in a focused area of neurovascular medicine of the applicant's choosing (e.g., cerebral amyloid angiopathy, vascular cognitive impairment, intracerebral haemorrhage, neurocardiology, cerebral vasculopathies, neurosonology, or other relevant area).
- Involvement in teaching and training of medical, technical and nursing staff, including at undergraduate and postgraduate 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.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
- Demonstrated understanding of, and commitment to, Clinical Governance, including in the context of operating a diagnostic laboratory.

Desirable:

- Prior experience contributing to the medical oversight of a neurosonology / neurodiagnostics laboratory.

Credentialing and Scope of Clinical Practice

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)
- Demonstrated knowledge of cerebrovascular ultrasound and satisfactory completion of acceptable external organisations' training requirements (e.g., neurosonology certification).



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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 immunization 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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