

Austin Health Position Description



Position Title: Secure Extended Care Unit Occupational Therapist Grade 2

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Classification: | Occupational Therapist Grade 2 |
| Business Unit/ Department: | Secure Extended Care Unit |
| Agreement: | Victorian Public Mental Health Services Enterprise Agreement 2020 - 2024 |
| Employment Type: | Full-Time |
| Hours per week: | 40 (38 plus ADO) |
| Reports to: | Nurse Unit Manager Professionally: Discipline Senior OT, MHD |
| Direct Reports: | Nil |
| Financial management: | Budget: Nil |
| Date: | July 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](#).

Commitment to Gender Equality

Austin Health is committed to gender equality in the workplace. In developing our [Gender Equality Action Plan](#) we have been guided by the gender equality principles set out in the Gender Equality Act 2020 (Vic). We believe that everyone should live in a safe and equal society, have access to equal power, resources and opportunities and be treated with dignity, respect, and fairness.

About Mental Health Division

The Mental Health Division (MHD) provides care and services through a comprehensive range of teams to meet the needs of mental health consumers and carers throughout Victoria. Services are located across Austin Health campuses and in the community.

All mental health services work within a clinical framework that promotes recovery-oriented practice and supported decision making. This approach to client wellbeing builds on the strengths of the individual working in partnership with their treating team, including family/ carers. It encompasses the principles of self-determination and individualised treatment and care.

Secure Extended care Unit (SECU)

The Secure Extended Care Unit is a service of the Adult Division in the Mental Health Division of Austin Health. It is in the same precinct as the Adult Inpatient Unit.

The SECU is a regional service which provides a rehabilitation and recovery service to individuals aged between 18-64 years with severe, unremitting mental health symptoms and complex needs and who need the support of a secure environment. The SECU provides therapeutic care in a contained and structured environment.

The unit has 25 beds and accepts people from the North, Northeast Northwest, and Inner East of Melbourne.

The Secure Extended Care Unit (SECU) Occupational Therapist (OT) is accountable to the SECU Nurse Unit Manager and will work collaboratively with the broader Mental Health Division (MHD) staff and teams, including the NDIS Lead.

The SECU Occupational Therapist is accountable for providing quality client care through the application of competent clinical skills in assessment, planning, and implementation of treatment to support SECU clients return to their community.

The OT will also have a role in supporting the capacity of the SECU multidisciplinary team to navigate and deliver on consumer outcomes related to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Working as part of a multidisciplinary team, the SECU OT provides psychosocial assessments and assists in developing long term recovery interventions for clients and their family. This role requires skills in formulating often complex community support frameworks with multiple stakeholders from potentially geographical broad locations.

The SECU occupational Therapist is also a discipline specific reference point for other SECU staff. This position supports innovation, quality improvement activities, participation in service planning meetings, and contributing as a member of the SECU treatment/recovery team. The role requires staff to liaise/engage community cohorts across the state given the state-wide catchment of the SECU.

Purpose and Accountabilities

Role Specific:

- Provide Specialist occupational therapy assessment and intervention services for consumers within the Secure Extended Care Unit.
- Provide an occupational therapy perspective and consultation to the multidisciplinary team and key stake holders.
- Undertake comprehensive mental state, risk assessments, functional and psychosocial assessments of clients.
- Initiate, implement, and evaluate individual and group-based interventions as part of a multidisciplinary team.
- Support and supervise occupational therapy students and Occupational Therapy graduates.
- Participate in professional development/training and discipline specific supervision.
- Provide support to family, carers and other works on the unit to support clients to attend and engage in rehabilitation activities and individual programs.
- Participate as a member of the multidisciplinary team in the ward rounds, clinical review meetings, and other clinical meetings, and maintain clinical records.
- Identify family, cultural or gender specific issues and assimilate these issues when formulating individual psychosocial rehabilitation programs.
- Contribute to policy development, planning, monitoring and evaluation of service delivery and research related endeavours.
- To engage community services via the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) as appropriate
- Actively participate in supervision as per the departmental protocols
- Utilizes opportunities to increase professional knowledge and skill base and promotes this culture in the department
- Other duties as required.

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 centered 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:
- Mandatory Qualifications
- Current Registration with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
- Minimum 2 years' professional social work experience, preferably in a mental health care or hospital setting.
- Essential for Performance in the Position
- Demonstrated ability to develop, implement and evaluate individual and group based

therapeutic programs for people with severe psychiatric disorders and complex needs.

- Demonstrated experience of occupational therapy assessment and treatments in mental health including sensory modulation approaches, functional assessments, and evidence-based interventions.
- A demonstrated commitment to the care of adults and their families with complex health issues in the least restrictive and intrusive manner, respecting their rights, privacy, dignity, and self-respect.
- Commitment to ongoing skill development, teamwork, and professional development
- Commitment to applying a consumer centered and recovery focused approach on the care of people with mental illness.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the Mental Health Act and recovery-oriented practice.
- Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills, and the ability to work well in a multidisciplinary team.
- Demonstrated awareness and participation in quality improvement processes within the service
- Demonstrated ability to prioritize tasks effectively to meet deadlines and an awareness of when to seek assistance and support as required.
- Demonstrated ability to work autonomously, problem solve and self-manage competing demands.
- Current Victorian Driver License.

Desirable but not essential for performance in the position:

- Demonstrated experience and skills in sub-acute assessment and management of people with a serious mental illness.
- Experience in working with consumers with multiple and complex needs including forensic histories dual disability and problematic alcohol and other drug use.
- Knowledge or understanding of NDIS and complex hospital discharge pathways.
- Previous experience in inpatient unit settings.
- Dual diagnosis experience & skills.
- Competent computer skills particularly in word processing and Internet use and the ability to learn dedicated system.

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

Austin Health is committed to diversity and inclusion in employment and is proud to encourage applications from people of different backgrounds, abilities, ages, genders, gender identities and/or sexual orientations.

Austin Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands we work on and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We welcome applications from people with disability and aim to provide an inclusive and accessible workplace. If you need any help with the application process or would like to

discuss your reasonable adjustments during interviews, please let us know.

We welcome applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. 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 | |