

Austin Health Position Description

Position Title: Rheumatology Consultant

Classification:	Medical Specialist
Business Unit/ Department:	Department of Rheumatology
Work location:	Heidelberg Repatriation
Agreement:	AMA Victoria - Victorian Public Health Sector Medical Specialists Enterprise Agreement 2022-2026
Employment Type:	Sessional
Hours per week:	As required
Reports to:	Director of Rheumatology
Direct Reports:	N/A
Financial management:	Budget
Date:	April 2025

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.

Position Purpose

This primary objective of this role is to provide a professional, patient-focused consultancy service within the Rheumatology department.

About the Rheumatology Department

The Rheumatology Unit at Austin Health is a busy Unit providing both in-and out-patient services including Telehealth. It is staffed by the Head of Unit supported by a team of VMO's, junior medical and nursing staff. The Unit has a breadth of expertise and experience, in particular, in autoimmune diseases, ankylosing spondylitis, polymyalgia rheumatica and vasculitis as well as musculoskeletal ultrasound. The Unit has the longest standing autoimmune diseases outpatient clinic in Victoria providing both a diagnostic role together with a valuable support function for other clinical units in hospital. The Unit currently sees approx. 1000 inpatients and 6000 outpatients per annum.

The Unit prides itself in the level of teaching and clinical research activity supported within the department.

Purpose and Accountabilities

Role Specific:

- Provide comprehensive management of outpatients.
- Provide a consultative service to other Units as required.
- Supervise trainees and junior medical staff.
- To assist the Director in administrative duties as required including the development and review of policies and procedures for the provision of services, updating as needed to reflect best practice and evidence-based medicine.
- To assist 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

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

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 Australasian College of Dermatologists.
- Have appropriate training and experience applicable to undertake the defined scope of practice.
- Demonstrated commitment to high quality patient care.
- Demonstrated commitment and ongoing activity in research and/or clinical audit activities
- Involvement in teaching and training of medical, technical and nursing staff, including at undergraduate and post-graduate 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.
- Have a demonstrated ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
- Have a demonstrated understanding of, and commitment to Clinical Governance.

Desirable but not essential:

- A sound understanding of information technology including clinical systems

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/ies 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 now.

We welcome applications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For any support throughout the recruitment process or for 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	