

Position Description

Neurology Consultant YSS

Classification:	As per contract
Business unit/department:	Neurology
Work location:	Austin Hospital <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital <input 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
Employment type:	Sessional
Hours per week:	7
Reports to:	Director of Neurology
Direct reports:	N/A
Financial management:	Budget: N/A
Date:	23/06/2025

Position purpose

Austin Health is seeking an experienced neurologist to provide patient-centered, evidence-based care for young adult survivors of stroke (target group 18 – 45 years) in an outpatient clinic.

The appointment is for a part-time, fixed term (Parental Leave) contract for 9 months (July 2025 to May 2026) - 2x sessions per week. The clinic runs Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The appointed neurologist will contribute towards creating guidelines for treating young adults with stroke, participate in research projects and clinical development within the Service, and may present data at academic conferences and publish in peer-reviewed journals.

About the Department

The Young Stroke Service is funded by the Medical Research Future Fund and led by the Florey Institute. Through co-designed research, we will implement a service dedicated to young adult stroke survivors. The service model has a strong digital focus, and the development of the evaluation of the service digital platform, and the service itself, forms a central part of the “project”. The service will deliver medical diagnostic work, and support patients via referrals to support pathways such as return-to-work, cognition, fatigue, mental health, and sexuality and intimacy. It will replace disorganized, inaccessible, or absent services.

A pilot clinical hub will be established within Austin Health, geographically based at the Melbourne Brain Centre in Heidelberg, as well as via telehealth. Patients across Victoria, including remote and rural areas, will be able to access the clinic. Another clinical hub will be established in South Australia, to demonstrate that the service can operate effectively under different health jurisdictions. The appointed Austin Health neurologist will support the neurologist in South Australia.

Position responsibilities

Role Specific:

- Provide outpatient clinic services for young adult stroke survivors, 2x sessions per week
- Build and foster working relationships with consumer consultants, including appropriate communication with people who have language, communication and / or cognitive difficulties, and their family members / carers.
- Ensure that all activities are conducted in accordance with approved protocols, guidelines, ethics approvals, contractual obligations and relevant privacy laws.
- Ensure that the privacy, confidentiality, data preservation, and security requirements of the patients and the service are always maintained.
- Maintain an excellent working relationship with co-workers, collaborators, and third parties to ensure delivery of the service in accordance with requirements.
- Ensure a high work ethic focused on high quality, and timely project delivery in accordance with relevant regulatory requirements
- Opportunity to participate in research projects, present data at academic conferences and publish in peer-reviewed journals
- contribute towards creating clinical guidelines for treating young stroke survivors

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 auditing and reviewing clinical practices to improve clinical outcomes.

Selection criteria

Essential Knowledge and skills:

- A commitment to Austin Health values.
- Must be a registered Medical Practitioner in Australia with the Australian Health
- Current Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians or equivalent Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).
- Have appropriate training and experience applicable to the field of Neurology and stroke, preferably with a stroke fellowship or equivalent training
- 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 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.
- Deemed to have demonstrated the ability to communicate effectively at all levels.
- Have demonstrated understanding of, and commitment to Clinical Governance.



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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.

The practice of neurology encompasses the diagnosis and management of diseases affecting the central, peripheral, and autonomic nervous systems as well as muscle.

All Neurologists should be competent in the following areas:

- Demonstrate a sound knowledge of neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, neurogenetics, neuroimmunology, neuropharmacology and neuropathology
- Demonstrate a sound knowledge of neurological conditions, including those which are common, those which are rare, and those which need to be dealt with as emergencies
- Take a detailed neurological history and perform an accurate neurological examination
- Demonstrate a sound knowledge of the indications, diagnostic potential, and limitations of neurological investigations, thereby permitting the rational use of these investigations in patients with neurological problems
- Demonstrate a sound knowledge of the management of neurological conditions both in terms of pharmacological treatment and other interventions

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

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
 - 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)
- Satisfactory completion of acceptable outside organisations credentialing requirements.



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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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