

Position Description

Position title	Microbiology Registrar
Department / Division	Laboratory Services, Microbiology
Classification	Registrar Year 4 to Year 6 (HM28 to HM30)
Position reports to	Operational: Associate Professor Andrew Daley Professional: Associate Professor Andrew Daley
No. of direct & indirect reports	n/a
Location	The Royal Children's Hospital, Flemington Road, Parkville
Risk category	Category A - works in a direct patient contact role and has or potential to have exposure to blood or body fluids.

The Royal Children's Hospital

The Royal Children's Hospital's (RCH) vision is *a world where all kids thrive*.

RCH is located within the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct, with more than 45 world-class biomedical organisations and more than 50,000 of the brightest minds working together to make the Precinct number one in the Asia Pacific region for health, education, research, and training. Within this, RCH is also a cornerstone member of the Melbourne Children's Campus, partnering with Murdoch Children's Research Institute, The University of Melbourne Department of Paediatrics and The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation. Each organisation contributes to a paediatric academic health centre which is greater than the sum of its parts.

RCH has cared for the children and young people of Victoria for more than 150 years since it was founded in 1870. A full range of paediatric and adolescent health services are provided plus tertiary and quaternary care for the most critically ill and medically complex patients in Victoria, Tasmania, southern NSW and other states around Australia and overseas. The RCH is the only provider of heart transplant services and CAR T-cell therapy for paediatrics in Australia. RCH is an effective advocate for patients and their families with a particular focus on vulnerable children and increasingly, mental health in young people. The hospital also supports many health promotion and prevention programs. The Hospital has more than 6,000 staff, a budget of \$850M, 12 wards and 350 beds. Annually, the RCH has 300,000+ Specialist Clinic appointments, 90,000+ Emergency Department presentations and 20,000 elective surgeries.

We work collaboratively with hospitals to deliver the right care, in the right place, at the right time. The RCH is committed to the Child Safe Standards <https://www.rch.org.au/quality/child-safety/>.

RCH enjoys high employee engagement and is committed to staff safety and a positive culture through enactment of our Compact.

Further information on RCH is available at www.rch.org.au

ROLE CONTEXT

The Microbiology Registrar works within the Microbiology Department and is part of a broader laboratory and clinical service provided to the Royal Children's and Royal Women's Hospitals. In addition, the Victorian Department of Health has endorsed the initiative to restructure existing public pathology by bringing together laboratories into

pathology networks operating under a lead health service. Pathology services from the Royal Children's Hospital, the Royal Women's Hospital, the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and the Royal Melbourne Hospital will come together to strengthen the scope, scale and reach of pathology services across the Parkville precinct to benefit all Victorians. This microbiology registrar role will be part of the new centre of excellence that will be led by Melbourne Health. The network will provide new opportunities for training and collaboration across the Parkville hospitals and more broadly across Victoria.

ROLE PURPOSE

The Microbiology Registrar works within the Bacteriology, Viral and Microbial Serology and Molecular Microbiology Laboratories. The Microbiology Department provides general and specialized diagnostic services in Paediatrics, Neonatology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology. A clinical infectious diseases consulting service is also provided to the Royal Women's Hospital with a focus on women's infectious diseases across Obstetrics and Gynaecology, as well as Neonatology. There is a particular emphasis on infection prevention and control, laboratory stewardship and antimicrobial stewardship across both the Royal Women's and Royal Children's Hospitals, as well as opportunities for research in these areas. The training program provides exposure to all aspects of diagnostic microbiology as well as Antimicrobial Stewardship, Laboratory Stewardship, Quality and Safety activities and Laboratory Management.

<https://www.rcpa.edu.au/Trainees/Training-with-the-RCPA>

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

The Microbiology Registrar liaises with clinical staff regarding appropriate laboratory testing and the interpretation of results.

There is a close association with the Clinical Infectious Diseases Unit at The Royal Children's Hospital with involvement in rounds and presentations in Journal Clubs and other meetings. A clinical consultation service is also provided at the Royal Women's Hospital and the Microbiology Registrar will have opportunities to be involved in outpatient clinics (sexual health, infections in pregnancy) and in consulting with a variety of inpatient specialties from neonatology and oncology to obstetrics and gynaecology.

Specific Duties

- Liaise with clinical and laboratory staff
- Provide advice to clinicians on testing and interpretation of laboratory results
- Notify urgent and significant results
- Assist with clinical consultations
- Participate in education and teaching programs

Responsibilities and Duties

Infectious Diseases (Royal Women's Hospital):

- Clinical consultative service
- Antimicrobial stewardship

Infection Prevention and Control (Royal Women's Hospital and Royal Children's Hospital):

- Routine surveillance and reporting
- Outbreak investigation

- Staff health program

In the laboratory, the Registrar will gain experience in the following areas:

- Specimen collection, transport and processing
- Bacteriology
 - blood cultures, urine, pus, faeces, respiratory and genital specimens
 - organism identification and susceptibility testing
 - mycobacteriology, parasitology and mycology
- Molecular diagnostics
 - broad range of molecular detection techniques for bacteriology and virology
- Serology
 - routine diagnosis
 - antenatal screening
 - blood and body fluid exposures
- Laboratory Management
 - quality control
 - laboratory information management systems
 - laboratory safety and occupational health
 - accreditation

Performance measures

- Daily case discussions and formal case presentations
- For RCPA Trainees, participation in DOPS and case-based discussions
- Quarterly performance reviews.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Essential:

- Registered medical practitioner (MBBS or equivalent).

Desirable:

- Given the specialty nature of the diagnostic service, this position is better suited to trainees with prior experience in general diagnostic microbiology and/or paediatrics and women's health.

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- The registrar requires good communication, time management and technical skills. A professional and caring manner is essential when dealing with patients and families.
- Preference is given to trainees considering FRCPA Microbiology training, but the position would also suit an Infectious Diseases trainee looking to further their exposure to diagnostic microbiology and women's infectious diseases.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Employees are required to undertake a National Criminal Record Check and a Working with Children Check prior to commencing employment
- Employees are required to maintain a valid Working with Children Check throughout their employment

- Employees are required to maintain compliance with RCHs "Staff Immunisation - Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases" procedure.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

All employees are required to adhere to the Royal Children's Hospital Values:

- Curious - We are creative, playful and collaborative
- Courageous - We pursue our goals with determination, ambition and confidence
- Inclusive - We embrace diversity, communicate well, build connections and celebrate our successes together
- Kind - We are generous, warm and understanding

RCH COMPACT

All new and existing employees commit to the RCH Compact to contribute to a strong and respectful culture.

- We do better work caring for children and families when we also care for each other
- I bring a positive attitude to work – I share, I laugh, I enjoy other's company
- I take responsibility for my behaviour and its impact on others
- I am curious and seek out ways to constantly learn and improve
- I celebrate the good stuff, the small stuff, the big stuff – it all matters
- I speak up when things aren't right
- I value the many different roles it takes to deliver great patient care
- I actively listen because I want to understand others and make better decisions
- I am inclusive and value diversity
- When it comes to teamwork, I don't hold back – I'm all in

QUALITY, SAFETY AND IMPROVEMENT

RCH employees have a responsibility and accountability to contribute to the organisation's commitment to Quality, Safety and Improvement by:

- Acting in accordance and complying with all relevant Safety and Quality policies and procedures
- Identifying risks, reporting and being actively involved in risk mitigation strategies
- Participating in and actively contributing to quality improvement programs
- Complying with the requirements of the National Safety & Quality Health Service Standards
- Complying with all relevant clinical and/or competency standards
- Complying with the principles of Patient and Family Centred Care that relate to this position

The RCH is committed to a diverse and inclusive workforce. We encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from culturally and/or linguistically diverse backgrounds, all members of the LGBTQI community and people with disability.

Position description last updated

9th June 2026