Position Description

Position Title
Clinical Nurse Consultant - Metabolic Medicine

Department / Division
Department of Metabolic Medicine - Division of Medicine

Classification
RN Grade 4A  
ZF4 - ZG7

Employment Status
Part-Time 0.8 FTE  
Fixed term 12 months

Position reports to
Operational: Dr Maureen Evans, Manager Dept Metabolic Medicine  
Professional: Prof. Fiona Newall, Director Nursing Research

Location
The Royal Children's Hospital, Flemington Road, Parkville

The Royal Children's Hospital
The Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) has cared for the children and young people of Victoria for more than 150 years since it was founded in 1870. As a tertiary and quaternary centre, the RCH cares for the most critically ill and medically complex paediatric patients in Victoria. In addition to providing a full range of clinical services, the hospital also supports many health promotion and prevention programs. With more than 6,000 staff, 12 wards and 350 beds, the RCH is the major specialist paediatric hospital in Victoria, and also provides care for children and young people from Tasmania, southern New South Wales and other states around Australia and overseas. We are the state's busiest paediatric Emergency Department, often experiencing more than 300 presentations on any given day. The RCH is committed to working with health services across the state and plays a significant role in many critical state and nationwide services. We work collaboratively with hospitals to deliver the right care, in the right place, at the right time, for the benefit of all Victorian children. The RCH is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people. Click here for further information on our Commitment to Child Safety: [http://www.rch.org.au/quality/child-safety](http://www.rch.org.au/quality/child-safety)

In April 2016, we became the first Australian hospital to implement the world-leading electronic medical record (EMR) and has a strong focus on supporting the successful delivery of the Parkville Connecting Care program – a shared EMR with The Royal Women's Hospital, The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

The RCH is located within the Melbourne Biomedical Precinct, which is home to more than 45 world-class biomedical organisations, with collectively more than 50,000 of the brightest minds working together to make the Precinct number one in the Asia Pacific region. Further information on the RCH including the new RCH Strategic Plan 2019-21 Great Care, Everywhere is available at [www.rch.org.au](http://www.rch.org.au)

ROLE PURPOSE

The Royal Children's Hospital is the primary provider of Metabolic Medicine for children of Victoria, Southern New South Wales, and Tasmania.

The purpose of the Clinical Nurse Consultant, Metabolic role is to support the diagnosis, assessment, care and follow up of infants and children with a suspected or known metabolic disorder. This occurs under direction from the RCH department of Metabolic Medicine and in conjunction with other RCH departments and interstate medical teams (i.e. Tasmania) and newborn screening services provided by Victorian Clinical Genetics Services (VCGS).

The Clinical Nurse Consultant, Metabolic may participate in clinical research studies conducted by the Department of Metabolic Medicine, and will assist in the preparation and regular review of clinical practice guidelines relating to the treatment of patients with inherited metabolic diseases at the Royal Children's Hospital.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Direct Comprehensive Care

- Support patients and their families through all stages of care by providing a familiar, reliable, and informed point of contact with the Metabolic Team during diagnosis, and thereafter.
- Follow up and liaison with appropriate clinical and laboratory services of infants with a positive result on newborn screening dried blood spot (DBS)
- Assess patient/parent competence in medication administration and blood sampling on Guthrie Cards
- Perform and co-ordinate metabolic loading and diagnostic tests as appropriate.
• Coordinate and liaison regarding the care, assessment, of patients on Enzyme Replacement Therapy (ERT) including tests and data collection required to assess effectiveness of treatment.

• Work in collaboration with all members of the Metabolic Medicine team to provide multidisciplinary care of patients

• Provide clinical advice and support to other RCH staff and to external medical/nursing staff as required to facilitate appropriate care and enhance awareness of procedures and protocols

• Build and maintain relationships with internal and external stakeholders

Support of Systems

• Contribute to writing and revision of clinical practice guidelines, protocols, care plans and education material regarding metabolic disorder management

• Document and report nursing activity to professional lead and HOD as required.

• Develop and maintain databases of patient assessments and results as required.

• Review current clinic practices to provide optimal follow up for patients.

• Complete monitoring requirements of patients on enzyme therapy for submission to the life-saving drugs committee (LSDP) annually for continuing approval of enzyme treatment.

• Contribute to organisational outcomes through supporting initiatives that improve patient flow, professional development of colleagues and integration of evidence-based guidelines into practice

• Provide patient-centred care through development and maintenance of networks across the organisation to support the coordinated care of children with complex health problems.

Research

• Initiate, support and participate in clinical research that aims to improve our understanding and/or management of patients with inherited metabolic disorders, focusing particularly on nursing issues as required

• Contribute to the dissemination of knowledge regarding the management of patients with inherited metabolic disorders in peer reviewed journals and conferences

• Attend and contribute to relevant metabolic course conferences/workshops, with a focus on dissemination of clinical outcomes achieved within the service.

Education

• Develop and provide information and education for patient and families regarding metabolic conditions, and their impact on general health care and evaluate the outcomes of education delivered

• Develop, coordinate, and conduct formal education sessions for post graduate nursing programs, as required

• Regularly attend and participate in weekly clinical meetings and education sessions

• Complete all required competencies and essential number of hours of continued professional education.

Professional Leadership

• Communicate well with team members, patients, and other health professionals

• Maintain confidentiality

• Lead by example using evidence-based protocols and sound clinical decision-making processes.

• Demonstrate professional leadership through contribution to education, research, practice, professional forums, and service development.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Essential:

• Current registration as a Registered Nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) administered through the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (APHRA)

• Demonstrated commitment to ongoing personal and professional development, as evidenced in a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) record/Professional Practice Portfolio (PPP)

• Demonstrated experience providing nursing care and treatment to Metabolic patients

• Demonstrated experience providing effective education to patients, families, and the multidisciplinary team

Desirable:
Post graduate qualification or working towards this

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's Check throughout their employment.
- A current, full driving licence for the State of Victoria which is appropriate for the type of vehicle being driven, and comply with any restrictions on their licence (e.g. wearing glasses) while undertaking hospital duties (if applicable)
- Employees are required to provide and maintain required immunisations and serology results as part of their employment.

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Demonstrated skills in planning and coordinating care delivery.
- Proven ability and skills to build collaborative relationships and work effectively in a multidisciplinary team.
- Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills.
- Critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Demonstrated good time management and self-direction

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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

- Unity - We work as a team and in partnership with our communities
- Respect - We respect the rights of all and treat people the way we would like them to treat us
- Integrity - We believe that how we work is as important as the work we do
- Excellence - We are committed to achieving our goals and improving outcomes

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, all members of the LGBTQI community, and people with disability.

Position description last updated | June 2021