

Position Description

Position title	Community Health Nurse – Immunisation Outreach Project
Department / Division	Department of Adolescent Medicine – Young People's Health Service
Classification	ZJ1 (CN4) – Community Health Nurse
Position reports to	Nurse Practitioner Young People's Health Service
No. of direct & indirect reports	n/a
Location	Organisation: The Royal Children's Hospital, Flemington Road, Parkville. Based at The Young People's Health Service, 19 King Street, Melbourne, this position involves outreach to youth refugees in Melbourne
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
<p>The Royal Children's Hospital's (RCH) vision is A world where all kids thrive.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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/.</p> <p>RCH enjoys high employee engagement and is committed to staff safety and a positive culture through enactment of our Compact.</p> <p>Further information on RCH is available at www.rch.org.au</p>

ROLE CONTEXT
<p>Young People's Health Service (YPHS) was established in 1991 following recommendations from the Burdekin Report, a national inquiry into the health of Australia's homeless children and youth. The program is part of The Royal</p>

Children's Hospital Department of Adolescent Medicine. It is community-based in Melbourne's CBD and has clinic rooms co-located with Frontyard Youth Services, a specialist homeless service of Melbourne City Mission. YPHS also conduct outreach visits to youth refuges in Melbourne and surrounding suburbs.

The clinical team comprises Nurse Practitioners and Clinical Nurse Consultants, rotating Advanced Trainees in Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, a rotating Basic Trainee in Adolescent Medicine, and Administrative Officers. Our team provides youth relevant, opportunistic, and strategic health care directly to young people experiencing homelessness, as well as education, research and advocacy. Young people experiencing homelessness are often from diverse communities that compound barriers to accessing mental health and wellbeing services.

YPHS have received a grant to improve adolescent vaccination coverage from the Victorian Department of Health with the aim to improve access to vaccinations through targeted, culturally appropriate, and community informed programs in alignment with the National Immunisation Strategy 2025-2030.

ROLE PURPOSE

The Community Health Nurse will build on existing relationships with youth services by using a clinical outreach model to improve access for vulnerable young people to government-funded vaccines on the National Immunisation Program and the Victorian State Immunisation Schedule. The role targets young people attending flexible learning centres, young people in short-term refuge accommodation, and those accessing the YPHS nurse-led clinic at Frontyard. As well as direct clinical care, the Community Health Nurse will provide secondary consultation and support to nurse immunisers in the community to plan and implement vaccine catch-up plans.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

Direct Comprehensive Care

- Provide comprehensive and evidence-based nursing care to patients in accordance with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) standards and RCH guidelines
- Undertakes comprehensive holistic patient assessments considering physical, psychological, and social aspects
- Support the delivery of individualised care based on assessed needs and evidence-based practices
- Monitor and evaluate patient responses to interventions and adjust care plans accordingly
- Collaborate and consult with the multidisciplinary team to achieve high quality and safe care, and desired health outcomes for young people
- Advocate for the needs and preferences of young people, ensuring their voices are heard in care decisions

Optimising Health Systems

- Act as a clinical resource, providing specialist nursing advice, colleagues and health care professionals
- Foster effective communication within the healthcare team, promoting a collaborative and cohesive working environment to ensure coordinated and effective patient care
- Utilise digital health, documenting complete, timely and accurate data ensuring privacy, security and reliability
- Contribute to the development, implementation, and evaluation of standards of practice and guidelines

Education

- Promote consumer education and involvement in decision-making related to their healthcare
- Ensure that educational materials are cognitively and culturally sensitive and tailored to individual consumer needs

- Engage in ongoing professional development to stay informed about current evidence-based practices and advancements in nursing
- Actively participate in in-service training, workshops, and continuing education opportunities
- Provide education to upskill other staff, supporting their professional development

Research and Improvement

- Participate in quality improvement initiatives, contributing to the ongoing enhancement of nursing practices and consumer outcomes
- Incorporate evidence-based practices into clinical decision-making and care delivery
- Stay informed about current nursing research and apply relevant findings to improve patient outcomes
- Identify practice problems and utilise resources to address practice issues through research or quality improvement processes

Professional Leadership

- Uphold the professional and ethical standards set by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA)
- Serve as a role model for ethical nursing practices and professionalism
- Provide leadership within the nursing team, fostering a positive and collaborative work culture
- Mentor junior staff and students, contributing to their professional growth and development
- Represent nursing as member of committees / working groups within the unit or organisation

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 (AHPRA)
- Accredited Nurse Immuniser
- Demonstrated commitment to ongoing personal and professional development, as evidenced in a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) record/Professional practice Portfolio

Desirable:

- Postgraduate qualification in the area of practice
- Experience working in a community setting
- Experience working with adolescents and young adults from diverse communities

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Ability to meet key accountabilities
- Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills
- Effective time management and organisational skills
- Ability to network, liaise, and work collaboratively with internal and external agencies, and community groups.
- Willingness to attend and actively participate in Community of Practice meetings
- Experience in providing clinical services to people with complex social and emotional needs
- Demonstrated ability to work autonomously and within a multidisciplinary team
- Enthusiasm and initiative

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
- A current, full driver's 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 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	May 2026
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