

Position Description

Position title	Neurophysiology Scientist
Department / Division	Neurology/ Division of Medicine
Classification	Grade 3, Year 1 – Grade 3 Year 4 (RY9-RZ3)
Position reports to	Operational: Head of Neurology Department Professional: Chief Neurophysiology scientist
No. of direct & indirect reports	FTE 8
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 neurophysiology department is part of the Neurology Unit. Our neurophysiology service provides routine EEG monitoring, ambulatory EEG monitoring, long-term inpatient video EEG monitoring (VEM), nerve conduction studies, intraoperative multimodal evoked potential monitoring and intraoperative electrocorticography.

The neurophysiology service provides an after-hours service during the weekend and public holidays.

ROLE PURPOSE

The neurophysiology scientist position includes the recording and analysis of EEG studies in a variety of locations within the Royal Children's Hospital, including the outpatient department, medical and surgical wards, neonatal and paediatric intensive care units and the Royal Women's Hospital neonatal intensive care unit.

This position encompasses the monitoring of patients undergoing long-term video-EEG and outpatient ambulatory EEG monitoring and will be involved in the analysis of these studies.

A component of this role will include the scientist working in the operating theatre. Work in the operating theatre will involve the scientist performing multimodal evoked potential monitoring of spinal pathways. The scientist will be involved in the analysis of these studies. In the neurosurgery theatre the scientist will be assisting the neurologist during epilepsy surgery, recording intracranial EEG.

Nerve conduction and EMG investigation are performed on both outpatients and inpatients by the neurologist. The role of the scientist will involve assisting the neurologist with these investigations.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Expertly perform and provide comprehensive analysis of video-EEG and ambulatory studies.
- Complete expert, accurate and professional technical reports for all video-EEG, home video-EEG and ambulatory EEG studies, reports reflecting a depth of knowledge in the recognition of normal and abnormal EEG patterns, epileptic and non-epileptic behaviours in children.
- Expertly perform intracranial EEG monitoring (subdural or depth) on the neurology ward.
- Provide support to the senior scientist during analysis of intracranial EEG recordings.
- Provide support to the consultant neurologist during cortical mapping in the operating theatre and on the neurology ward
- Expertly perform and provided comprehensive analysis of multimodal evoked potential recordings in the operating theatre.
- Complete expert, accurate and professional technical reports of the multimodal evoked potentials.
- Expertly perform and provided comprehensive analysis of evoked potential recordings in the paediatric intensive care unit. Complete expert, accurate and professional technical report.
- Expertly perform EEG recordings in a variety of locations including, the outpatient department, medical and surgical wards, the emergency department, neonatal and paediatric intensive care units, Royal Women's Hospital neonatal intensive care unit and intraoperatively during epilepsy surgery.
- Complete expert, accurate and professional technical reports for all EEG studies.
- Provide support where required during vagal nerve stimulator programming, nerve conduction studies and EMG recordings.
- Provide comprehensive review of neurophysiology referrals, ensuring timely, appropriate triaging to maximise the service coordination and collaboration.
- Complete expert, accurate and timely checking of neurophysiology reports to ensure best patient care.
- Collate and report neurophysiology activities (statistics) to support team obligations.
- Participate in continuous quality improvement of the neurophysiology recording equipment.

- Complete expert, accurate and timely documentation of neurophysiology studies in departmental databases.
- Actively participate in reporting sessions and clinical meetings and respect the confidentiality of these meetings.
- Contribute and support members of the neurology team research or evaluation activities as required.
- Participate in clinical supervision of junior scientists, nursing staff and trainee medical staff.
- Maintain and enhance professional knowledge and skills in all areas of neurophysiology.
- Work collaboratively with other neurophysiology scientist team members and other members of the multi-disciplinary team to provide high quality inter-disciplinary care.
- Participate in flexible working hours that consider the medical needs of patients in the hospital.
- Participate in the after-hours EEG roster.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Essential:

- Bachelor of Science or Applied Science
- Widely experienced, with sound knowledge and skills relating to an extensive range of diagnostic neurophysiology tests or procedures.
- Eligibility for Membership to the appropriate Professional Body (NSSA, ANTA, AAIM)

Desirable:

- Experience in a tertiary paediatric neurophysiology unit
- Masters of Neurophysiology

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Demonstrated experience and expertise in the direct performance and interpretation of a wide range of diagnostic procedures.
- Demonstrated experience in the evaluation, operation and maintenance of complex equipment.
- Demonstrated commitment to professional development.
- Demonstrated experience in maintaining neurophysiology department statistics
- Well- developed interpersonal and communication skills, ability to build relationships with children, adolescents and their families.
- A flexible and adaptable approach to functioning in a team environment that enhances the team's high performance.

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 LGBTIQI community and people with disability.

Position description last updated

May 2023