

Position Description

Position title	Consultant Psychiatrist Hospital Mental health, Eating Disorders and adolescent Inpatient MH
Department / Division	Mental Health / Medicine
Classification	As per the Medical Specialists (Victorian Public Health Sector) (AMA Victoria/ASMOF) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2022 – 2026
Position reports to	Director, Mental Health
No. of direct & indirect reports	n/a
Location	The Royal Children's Hospital, Flemington Road, Parkville
Risk category	Category B - works in a patient facing setting but rarely or unlikely to have contact with blood or body fluids (or aerosols without PPE)

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>RCH Mental Health is a Level 5 tertiary Infant, Child and Family Area Mental Health and Wellbeing Service comprised of both community and hospital-based services. The Community arm of the service that includes an Intake and Assessment Team based at Parkville and serving the community arm of the service, the three multidisciplinary community-based teams located at Travancore (Flemington), St Albans and Hoppers Crossing, a HOPE team and the</p>

Brimbank Melton Local service. The Hospital arm includes the Hospital Consultation-Liaison team, the Banksia Ward and the Joey pod, a specialist unit with 3 beds for the care of patients with eating disorders and cooccurring acute mental health problems.

This role will be based in the Hospital Consultation Mental Health Service (HCL) and provide clinical care to young people with eating disorders and other mental health disorders in the Joey Pod specialist eating disorders unit and the Banksia ward.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- In collaboration with the medical, nursing and allied health staff of the Joey Pod, Hospital Consultation-Liaison mental health service (HCL) and the Banksia ward, provide oversight of the clinical care of a number of consumers with eating disorders and other acute mental health problems.
- Conduct and lead clinical assessments (including risk assessments), diagnosis, recovery planning, implementation of the plan and discharge of the consumers, completing this through the delegation of tasks to and clinical governance of Fellows/Registrars, allied health and nursing care coordinators.
- Provide consultant input to the Banksia Ward as required based on clinical need, to ensure timely assessments, treatments and discharges of consumers in keeping with the principles of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022.
- Maintain systems that coordinate clinical care effectively with the multi-disciplinary teams both during business hours and after-hours
- Collaborate effectively with the NUM of the Joey Pod and Banksia Ward and the Hospital Services Coordinator to ensure operational and clinical targets are met, and clinical care is of a consistently high standard
- Align clinical practice systems on the Joey pod, HCL service and Banksia ward with service directions through the Director Mental Health
- Lead and participate in Quality Activities in the RCH Mental Health Service and contribute to a culture of evidence-based practice, continual learning and improvement
- Ensure that clinical work and care procedures are accurately and promptly documented
- Support the training of the Fellow
- Participate in the on-call roster for psychiatrists' pro-rata

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Essential

- Specialist Medical Practitioner registration with AHPRA
- Fellowship of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists or equivalent qualification
- Experience in working in the mental health sector and sound knowledge of the relevant legislation pertaining to Mental Health.
- Excellent clinical skills and a commitment to professional development
- Proven ability to work collaboratively with the multidisciplinary team including senior medical, junior medical, nursing and allied health staff.

Desirable

- Accreditation as an RANZCP Supervisor
- Completion of accredited postgraduate training in child and adolescent psychiatry
- Experience in inpatient MH including the assessment and management of young people with eating disorders
- An interest in teaching and research with publications in refereed journals in the field of mental health

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Very well-developed clinical skills in child and adolescent psychiatry
- Strong communication skills and demonstrated capacity to work independently and interdependently in a multidisciplinary team setting
- Effective ability to prioritise and manage a range of clinical and coordinating functions
- Demonstrated capacity to effectively provide supervision
- Experience in establishing and maintaining well-functioning and professional relationships with nursing staff, allied health staff, psychiatric and other medical staff within and outside the ward
- Highly developed capacity to work with a range of internal and external stakeholders including referrers, HCL staff, RCH ED, RCH medical and nursing teams, Child protection services, schools and NGOs to provide the highest quality of care to consumers and their carers/families.

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

July 2025