

Position Description

Position title	Medical Scientist
Department / Division	Laboratory Services – Haematology Scientific / Ambulatory Services
Classification	Grade 1 Year 1 – Grade 1 Year 7 (RX1 – RX7)
Position reports to	Operational: Principal Scientist Haematology
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
<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>The Haematology Laboratory, within the department of Laboratory Services, provides a comprehensive, high quality diagnostic haematology service to both the Royal Children's Hospital and the Royal Women's Hospital 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</p>

ROLE PURPOSE
<p>The Haematology Grade 1 scientist is responsible for the performance of laboratory duties and services (including Haematology, Transfusion, Specimen Reception and, at the RWH Core Laboratory, Biochemistry), over a 24/7 rotating roster, including on-call, as directed by the Principal Scientist.</p> <p>The Grade 1 Medical Scientist role is a foundational position that supports the development of core skills and expertise in diagnostic laboratory practices. Working within a collaborative team, the role provides experience across haematology, transfusion, and related disciplines, contributing to high-quality patient care. This position offers opportunities for growth and professional development in a dynamic healthcare environment.</p>
KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES
<p>Operational</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform diagnostic laboratory tests and services, interpret, action, and validate results as documented • Adhere to standard operating techniques and procedures documented in laboratory manuals as required by the International Quality System Standard (ISO 15189-2013), NPAAC and ANZBT transfusion guidelines. • Participate in the laboratory 24/7 rotating rosters, including on-call • Perform quality control testing, interpret data and follow-up non-conformances as documented • Participate in Quality Assurance Programmes as directed • Perform preventative maintenance of laboratory equipment as directed • Identify, troubleshoot, and report to senior staff, any instrument malfunction • As directed perform and maintain stock inventory to ensure continuity of testing and blood / blood product provision • Perform Specimen Reception duties as required • Participate in quality improvement processes using the 'OFI' and 'VHIMS' reporting systems in accordance with the Quality Management System <p>Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete training and competency programmes within specified timeframes as identified at annual performance review and as required • Complete hospital mandatory training programmes • Actively participate in continuing education and professional development (CEPD) programmes attaining a CEPD score commensurate with the role • Participate in research and development projects under the direction of the Principal Scientist <p>Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in accordance with hospital Workplace Health and Safety (WH&S) policies • Report safety issues using the 'OFI' and 'VHIMS' reporting systems in accordance with the Quality Management System • Laboratory duties must be performed in accordance with the policies, procedures and technical methods documented in the Laboratory Services Quality System, meeting the requirements of NATA ISO15189 (Medical Testing) and the clinical needs of patients. <p>Customer Service, Stakeholder Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently meet benchmark Turn Around Times (TATs) established for the laboratory • Communicate openly and respectfully with colleagues, internal and external stakeholders, work collaboratively and accept responsibility for achieving shared goals.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Essential:

- Bachelor of Applied Science (Medical Laboratory Science), Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Laboratory Medicine) or Bachelor of Science with a major in Haematology and/or Transfusion Science or equivalent, where 'equivalent' includes a degree awarded by an overseas tertiary institution which is recognised by the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition, which in the case of Medical Scientists is the Australian Institute of Medical Scientists (AIMS).
- Qualify for professional scientist membership of the Australian Institute of Medical Scientists (AIMS).
- Appropriate qualifications to fulfil the definition of a 'Medical Scientist' as defined in Section 6 of the Victorian Public Health Sector (Medical Scientists, Pharmacists & Psychologists) Enterprise Agreement 2017-2021
- Major in haematology and/or professional experience in a Haematology/Transfusion diagnostic laboratory
- Demonstrable commitment to professional development and participation in a relevant scientific Continuing Professional Development program such as APACE.

Desirable:

- Experience in blood film morphology
- Previous experience with Information Technology Systems and Laboratory Information Systems
- Ability to use common computer software
- Demonstrated experience in laboratory shift work and on-call
- Attained or applying for Medical Scientist Certification

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Demonstrated relevant technical skills and knowledge in haematology and transfusion laboratory science.
- Previous experience in paediatric diagnostic haematology testing
- Demonstrated flexibility in working 24/7 shifts, including on-call
- Well-developed interpersonal skills with the ability to work individually and as an effective team member
- Professional manner in interaction with work colleagues and internal and external stakeholders
- Well-developed time management and prioritising skills with ability to multitask, manage emergencies and anticipate service requirements
- Quality focussed with a systematic and detailed approach to work
- Demonstrable ability to use common computer software
- Personal commitment to professional development and continuing education
- A strong, responsible work ethic

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	
<p>All employees are required to adhere to the Royal Children's Hospital Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>RCH COMPACT</p> <p>All new and existing employees commit to the RCH Compact to contribute to a strong and respectful culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>QUALITY, SAFETY AND IMPROVEMENT</p> <p>RCH employees have a responsibility and accountability to contribute to the organisation's commitment to Quality, Safety and Improvement by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>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.</p>	

Position description last updated	November 2024
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