

POSITION DESCRIPTION - CONSULTANT PHYSICIAN

POSITION TITLE	Consultant Physician
TYPE OF APPOINTMENT	Full-time salaried appointment
DEPARTMENT	General Medicine
RESPONSIBLE TO	Director of Medical Services
SUPERVISES	Medical Registrars and Interns.
LIAISES WITH	Other medical practitioners Nursing staff Allied Health staff Admission and Discharge Co-ordinator.
LOCATIONS	1. Wimmera Base Hospital, Baillie Street, Horsham 2. Consulting Rooms, 1 Arnott Street, Horsham.

BACKGROUND

The Wimmera Base Hospital, the largest entity within the Wimmera Health Care Group, is located 300 km north west of Melbourne in a progressive rural city with a population of 19,000. It is the base hospital of the Wimmera and is the area's main referral centre, serving approximately 50,000 people. It has some 9,000 admissions a year and offers specialist services in anaesthetics, general medicine, surgery, obstetrics & gynaecology, on-site pathology and radiology (including CT), as well as visiting services in ENT, ophthalmology, oncology, geriatrics, urology, oral surgery, orthopaedics, gastroenterology, dermatology and psychiatry. There has been a \$27 million total redevelopment of the Group's facilities in recent years.

Two Consultant Physicians provide services in general medicine. The Hospital has thirteen Resident Medical Officers, nine of whom are on rotation from the Royal Melbourne Hospital. There is an active Resident teaching program and a Medical staff postgraduate education program. In addition, the Visiting Medical Staff provide teaching to Fourth Year Medical Students on rotation from The University of Melbourne.

The Consultant Physicians have an active role in the Hospital's modern five-bed Intensive Care/Coronary Care Unit. Approximately 1,000 endoscopies are performed each year and facilities are available for video endoscopy and dialysis.

PREREQUISITES

1. A primary medical qualification registered or registrable with the Medical Practitioners Board of Victoria.
2. Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians or, for an overseas- trained appointee, postgraduate clinical training, qualifications and experience in Internal Medicine which the College assesses as meeting its requirements for appointment to the position under Area of Need arrangements.
3. Relevant clinical experience as a Specialist in Internal Medicine.

CREDENTIALING

In accordance with the Hospital's bylaws, specialist medical staff must have approved credentials and have been granted appropriate privileges before taking up their appointment. A review and renewal of credentials and privileges is carried out every five years.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Specialist medical staff must have Medicare provider numbers for both practice locations and recognition as a specialist by the Health Insurance Commission's Specialist Recognition Advisory Committee for payment of Medicare benefits at the higher specialist rates.

REMUNERATION

As set out in attached contract.

ROLE STATEMENT

The Consultant Physician is responsible for providing specialist Internal Medicine services of the highest possible standard to patients at the Hospital.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Attend the hospital each week day morning to undertake a ward round of all medical patients in the Intensive Care Unit and wards, as well as patients referred by other specialists or general practitioners.
- To participate in the on call roster for medical patients. When on call at weekends, to review all patients in the Intensive Care Unit daily and review patients in the Intensive Care Unit, wards or Emergency Department when requested by resident medical staff or visiting medical staff.
- Attend a weekly meeting in the ward to conduct a medical audit with resident medical staff and nursing staff, undertaking clinical review and coding of all medical patients with Medical Records Staff and ward administration. This meeting reviews all medical patient discharge summaries, Casemix coding, adverse events, patient satisfaction survey results, and actively liaises with the Clinical Risk Management Unit .
- Participation in : Patient Care Committee (reviewing all patient deaths and transfers from general wards to Intensive Care Unit) meets two monthly.

Attendance at the following committees as allocated by the Hospital and Medical Staff Group : Pharmaceutical Advisory Committee, meets monthly; Infection Control Committee, meets three monthly; Clinical Research Committee, meets three monthly; and Medical Staff Group, meets two monthly. The visiting physicians are expected to attend 75% of allocated meetings.

- Develop mutually agreed performance indicators, such as the number of patient consultations per day, inpatient throughput targets, patient length of stay in comparison to State Best Practice for particular diagnostic related groups, ward Pharmacy, Pathology and Radiology costs in relationship to budget and the levels of patient, staff and resident medical staff satisfaction.
- Conduct a weekly lunchtime teaching session for Resident Medical Staff and General Practitioners.
- Participate in Thursday lunchtime meetings and professorial days.
- Develop and regularly review clinical protocols and clinical pathways in the wards and Emergency Department and ensure that these protocols and pathways reflect best clinical practice as described in the clinical literature.
- Participate in clinical research as appropriate to a rural base hospital.