

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Obstetric Consultant/Subspecialist in Maternal Fetal Medicine
Business Unit/Department:	Maternal Fetal Medicine
Division:	Women's & Children's Services
Award/Agreement:	Medical Specialists (Victorian Public Health Sector) AMA Victoria/ASMOF (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement
Classification:	HN16 to HN59
Reports To:	Head of Unit – Maternal Fetal Medicine
Direct Reports:	Junior medical employees; Sonographers
Date Prepared/Updated:	13 September 2025

Position Purpose

The role of the Obstetric Consultant/Subspecialist working in Maternal Fetal Medicine is to provide high quality clinical care to obstetric patients at Western Health services, to supervise and train Junior Medical Staff and sonographers and support Western Health Strategic Priorities.

The Consultant obstetrician or Maternal Fetal Medicine Subspecialist will work within the Joan Kirner Womens' and Children's' (JKWC) Maternal Fetal Medicine Unit to provide high risk pregnancy care for women with complex pregnancies including those with maternal medical disorders, pregnancy specific disorders or fetal complications including management of fetal anomalies and fetal growth restriction. The Western Health Maternal Fetal Medicine service also provides tertiary level consultation for patients with pregnancy disorders within our catchment area, including referrals from PIPER.

Business Unit Overview

Women's & Children's services is responsible for the provision of in-patient and ambulatory care across maternity, gynaecology, neonatal and paediatric services. The division provides both elective and emergency care. Women's & Children's aims to ensure the provision of safe, coordinated, person-centred, right care through a consistent, multi-disciplinary partnership approach. Women's & Children's services at WH continues to expand and develop to meet the region's population growth, care complexities and demand. The service has seen significant growth over the last 4-5 years across all program areas in assisting to meet regional support requirements.

In 2024/25 in the Women's and Children's Divisions activity included more than:

- 7,983 total babies were born: on average 21-22 babies per day
- 7,199 babies were born at Sunshine Hospital
- 784 babies were born at Bacchus Marsh Hospital
- 1,512 neonates accessed Newborn Services
- 3,062 women accessed inpatient Gynaecology services

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- 4,149 children were admitted
- 29,985 children were cared for in the Sunshine Hospital Emergency
- 160,208 episodes of ambulatory care were provided

The Division of Women's & Children's Services provides care across a number of sites within the Western catchment, predominantly at Sunshine, but also at Bacchus Marsh/Melton and Sunbury. The Division collaborates across a number of Divisions within Western Health and partners with external health services and community services to ensure the provision of Best Care.

The Division will continue to innovate and develop services and care options across Western Health to ensure Best Care for the community of Western Melbourne.

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology has over 40 specialists and 30 registrars. Whilst most specialists are general obstetricians and gynaecologists, subspecialty services include gynaecological oncology, urogynaecology (non-subspecialists), maternal fetal medicine, COGU, reproductive choices and infertility. There is a team of advanced laparoscopic surgeons and specialists with an interest in sexual and reproductive health, colposcopy, EPAS and adolescent gynaecology. We have over 55 theatre lists per month and gynaecological surgery is undertaken at both Joan Kirner (Sunshine campus) and Bacchus Marsh. Women's & Children's services is responsible for the provision of in-patient and ambulatory care across maternity, gynaecology, neonatal and paediatric services. The division provides both elective and emergency care. Women's & Children's aims to ensure the provision of safe, coordinated, person-centred, right care through a consistent, multi-disciplinary partnership approach. Women's & Children's services at WH continues to expand and develop to meet the region's population growth, care complexities and demand. The service has seen significant growth over the last 4-5 years across all program areas in assisting to meet regional support requirements.

The Maternal Fetal Medicine unit provides multidisciplinary, holistic inpatient and outpatient care to patients with the most complex pregnancies. During 2024/2025, 4575 referrals were accepted, resulting in 10018 outpatient episodes. The service offers all aspects of MFM care including Fetal Medicine clinics, Fetal Cardiology Clinics (supported by four fetal and paediatric cardiologists), Multiple pregnancy clinic (providing care for monochorionic twins, higher order multiples and dichorionic twins with additional complications (e.g. selective FGR or discordant anomalies), Cervical Surveillance / Preterm Birth prevention Clinic, Obstetric Medicine Clinic (supported by Obstetric Medicine physicians), Recurrent Miscarriage Clinic and Pregnancy Loss Clinic. The MFM service is supported by dedicated Perinatal Genetic Counsellors (available 5 days per week), a Clinical Geneticist, a Perinatal Psychiatrist and dedicated MFM midwives. The unit has well established relationships with Newborn services, Obstetric Anaesthetics and the Adult Intensive Care Unit to support complex multidisciplinary care planning for the most complex patients. Established weekly multidisciplinary team meetings and a Termination Review panel ensure that clinicians are well supported in decision making. The unit is accredited by RANZCOG to train two CMFM fellows at any level.

Key Responsibilities

- Performing and reporting* ultrasounds undertaken in the Maternal Fetal Medicine Unit (including supervision and reporting of scans performed by sonographers and registrars)*. Ensuring that all ultrasounds meet recognized quality standards and comply with the procedures and guidelines of the unit.
- Counselling women with complex pregnancies (including those with maternal medical disorders or fetal anomalies) and developing appropriate evidence based management plans.
- Accurately reflect the patient's treatment plan, requirements, outcomes or events within prescribed documentation to support ongoing care, communication and to ensure that all legal requirements are met in regards to legibility of content and identity of reporter in accordance with Western Health policies and procedures
- Participation in the Early Pregnancy assessment Service (EPAS) ultrasound roster as required.
- Liaison with the various members of the multidisciplinary Maternal Fetal Medicine team to ensure optimal holistic management of patients.
- Contributing to Divisional audit processes including the Perinatal and Obstetric Morbidity and Mortality meetings and various Maternal Fetal Medicine unit based audits.

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- Contributing to the development of evidence based clinical practice guidelines within both the MFM unit and the general Obstetrics service.
- Involvement in continuing professional development (CPD) of consultant staff, junior medical staff, midwifery staff, sonographers and General Practitioners to maintain currency of knowledge and skills relevant to high risk obstetric care.
- Complaints and incident management relevant to the Maternal Fetal Medicine Unit as appropriate. Participate in resolving problems in care and to ensure that the Unit/ Department Head is aware of relevant issues and problems
- Participation in the research activities of the Maternal Fetal Medicine Unit and the Women's and Children's Division.
- Participation in the after-hours MFM on-call roster (MFM Subspecialists) and/ or general obstetrics on call roster
- Ensure that the care of all patients is handed over or other suitable arrangements for follow up, including follow up of results is in place when not on call
- Ensure continuity of care by communicating appropriately with other practitioners including community general practitioners
- Ensure awareness of clinical experience and proficiency of junior medical staff delegated to deliver care and provide supervision for and be accountable for the care delivered
- Provide consistent and appropriate leadership and supervision to Junior Medical Staff
- Lead by example in the delivery and promotion of high-quality clinical care to all patients
- Participate in service planning as requested by the Unit / Department Head and Clinical Service Directors including the development and setting of targets, resource requirements and improvement priorities for the service agreement
- Actively participate in departmental or organisational wide quality and credentialing processes, including clinical work review groups
- Ensure that any dealings with the media are approved and in accordance with policy, procedure and privacy legislation
- Contribute to creating and maintaining a work climate which is conducive to positive morale and employee growth, development and retention
- Undertake other duties and instructions as provided by the Head of Unit

** Reporting of ultrasounds can only be undertaken by a consultant who holds the Diploma of Diagnostic Ultrasound, COGU or CMFM qualification.*

In addition to the key responsibilities specific to your role, you are required to deliver on the [Key Organisational Accountabilities](#) which are aligned with the Western Health strategic aims.

Key Working Relationships

Internal:

- Other Senior Medical Staff
- Junior Medical Staff
- Nursing and Allied Health Staff
- Sonographers
- Genetic Counsellors
- Patient Support and Administrative Staff
- Medical Workforce Unit Management
- Unit/ Department Heads
- Clinical Services Directors
- Divisional Directors
- Executive Director Medical Services

External:

- RANZCOG
- GP's
- Community Health Agencies including referring hospitals
- Other Senior Medical Staff

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- Tertiary Obstetric Services including The Royal Women's Hospital, Mercy Hospital for Women, Monash Medical Centre
- Paediatric, Infant, Perinatal Emergency Retrieval Service (PIPER)

Selection Criteria

Essential:

- Medical qualification – Fellow of RANZCOG or equivalent
- Eligible for Australian medical registration
- Prior experience working in a Maternal Fetal Medicine Unit providing antenatal care to patients with complex pregnancies.
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Commitment to professional development
- Experience in the support and supervision of Junior Medical Staff
- Demonstrated ability to practice collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary health care team
- Effective organisational skills, with respect to time management and delegation
- Well-developed written and verbal communication skills
- Displays and expresses a high level of ethics in regards to patients, colleagues and the organisation
- Demonstrates skill and maturity in problem solving, negotiation and conflict resolution
- Demonstrates ability to make decisions and explain rationale
- Clearly communicate decisions to relevant parties
- Maintains confidentiality of patient, institutional and employee information
- Commitment to professional development
- Analyses own performance in accordance with position expectations. Develops goals and implements a plan to meet those goals.
- Maintains own knowledge and skills
- Undertake other duties and instructions as provided by the Head of Unit
- Participates in and contributes to committees, teams and projects in keeping with the organisation's strategic goals
- Seeks out and is receptive to feedback from co-workers at all levels for the purpose of growth in the role

Desirable:

- Recognised qualifications in Maternal Fetal Medicine such as the RANZCOG Certificate in Maternal Fetal Medicine (CMFM) or equivalent OR the Certificate of Obstetrics and Gynaecological Ultrasound (COGU) OR Diploma of Diagnostic Ultrasound (DDU) with demonstrated experience in managing high risk pregnancies (or anticipation of acquiring one of these qualifications within the next 2 years)
- Demonstrated research skills
- Experience as a RANZCOG credentialed training supervisor
- Knowledge of health issues in relation to Western Health's catchments
- Acknowledgement of Western Health strategic themes

Additional Requirements

All employees are required to:

- Obtain a police/criminal history check prior to employment
- Obtain a working with children check prior to employment (if requested)
- Obtain an Immunisation Health Clearance prior to employment
- Report to management any criminal charges or convictions you receive during the course of your employment.
- Comply with relevant Western Health clinical and administrative policies and guidelines.
- Comply with and accept responsibility for ensuring the implementation of health and safety policies and procedures.
- Fully co-operate with Western Health in any action it considers necessary to maintain a working environment, which is safe, and without risk to health.
- Protect confidential information from unauthorised disclosure and not use, disclose or copy confidential information except for the purpose of and to the extent necessary to perform your employment duties at Western Health.

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- Safeguard children and young people in our care, by ensuring that your interactions are positive and safe, and report any suspicions or concerns of abuse by any person internal or external to Western Health
- Be aware of and comply with relevant legislation: Public Administration Act 2004, Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006, the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, the Victorian Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017 (OHS Regulations 2017), Fair Work Act 2009 (as amended), the Privacy Act 1988 and responsibilities under s141 Health Services Act with regard to the sharing of health information, the Family Violence and Child Information Sharing Schemes, Part 5A and 6A Family Violence Protection Act 2008, Safe Patient Care Act 2015, Mental Health & Wellbeing Act 2023
- Be aware of and comply with the Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees and other Western Health employment guidelines.

General Information

- Redeployment to other services and sites within Western Health may be required.
- Employment terms and conditions are provided according to relevant award/agreement.
- Western Health is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing for its employees a work environment which is free of harassment or discrimination. The organisation promotes diversity and awareness in the workplace.
- Western Health is committed to Gender Equity
- Western Health provides support to all personnel experiencing family and domestic violence
- This position description is intended to describe the general nature and level of work that is to be performed by the person appointed to the role. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required. Western Health reserves the right to modify position descriptions as required. Employees will be consulted when this occurs.
- Western Health is a smoke free environment.

I confirm I have read the Position Description, understand its content and agree to work in accordance with the requirements of the position.

Employee's Name: _____

Employee's Signature: _____ Date: _____

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