

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Senior Mental Health Clinician
Business Unit/Department:	Perinatal Mental Health Service
Division:	Mental Health and Wellbeing Service
Award/Agreement:	Victorian Public Mental Health Services Enterprise Agreement 2020–2024 / Victorian Public Health Sector (Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists) Single Interest Enterprise Agreement 2021 - 2025
Classification:	RPN 4, SW3, OT3, P3
Reports To:	Operationally: Program Manager – Perinatal Mental Health Service, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Service, Yanna Yanna PARC
Direct Reports:	0
Date Prepared/Updated:	15 May 2025

Position Purpose
<p>The Perinatal Mental Health Service provides assessment and treatment of women within the perinatal period within a consultation liaison model. The service provides mental health assessment and treatment for women requiring assistance with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant emotional distress around pregnancy, delivery, or having a baby in the Special Care Nursery • Depression (antenatal, postnatal) in the perinatal period • Anxiety (including Panic Disorder, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Phobias) in the perinatal period • Adjustment to parenthood • Psychological preparation and support for perinatal medical procedures • Pregnancy related grief and loss • Liaison and coordination between perinatal mental health support services for client <p>The service also provides capacity building, education and secondary consultation and advice about perinatal mental illness to primary health care providers, in particular maternity services at Sunshine Hospital.</p>
Business Unit Overview
<p>The Division of Mental Health and Wellbeing Services spans across multiple Western Health sites and within the local community, and services consumers across the lifespan.</p> <p>The Division has recently been established following a key recommendation from the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System. The Western Health catchment includes the local government municipalities and growth areas of Brimbank, Sunbury, Maribyrnong and Melton.</p> <p>Our recovery-oriented approach to care is provided by a multidisciplinary workforce comprising skilled clinicians, consumers and carers. These services include hospital based, community and specialist mental health and wellbeing services for adults, older adults, children and adolescents who are experiencing, or are at risk of developing a serious mental illness.</p> <p>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.</p>

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<p>The Division aims to innovate and develop services and care options across Western Health to ensure Best Care for the community of Western Melbourne.</p>
<p>Key Responsibilities</p> <p>Accountabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide clinical leadership in the form of role modelling and mentoring to clinical staff • Providing interventions in relation to complex clinical issues, including Dual Diagnosis, to improve consumer level of functioning and quality of life. Simultaneously work collaboratively with consumers, families and carers staff in the development, implementation and review of Individual Recovery Plans/Treatment Plans and provision of quality services. • Possess current, advanced, specialist mental health knowledge and skills and apply these skills to lead clinical interventions • Utilise a perinatal mental health lens to support women with their mental health difficulties in the perinatal period. • Deliver discipline specific interventions to consumers and their families and carers • Manage portfolios for the team in line with discipline specialities and professional interests • Support the Team Leader with the coordination of referrals, assessments and feedback of outcomes to consumers and referring services. • Categorise referrals. • Complete triages. • Contribute to service development and continuous improvement projects • Utilise highly developed mental health skills to support the team to identify and manage consumers presenting with signs of deterioration in mental health or increased risk profiles. • Provide leadership in ensuring policies, processes and guidelines are implemented and followed consistently. • Be accountability for own personal professional practice, critical reflection, professional development and performance assessment and review • Promote, develop and support the peer support workforce across programs • Liaise with and build relationships with key internal and external stakeholders <p>Quality Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate and lead quality improvement projects alongside management and the broader team. • Enhance the utilisation and sharing of best practice knowledge and skills across the team. • Support an environment which promotes continuous improvement in practice • Support a culture of continuous improvement and actively identifies areas for improvement <p>Contribution to Service and Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support PMHS leadership in developing and implementing guidelines, protocols, procedures, standards and systems of work set by the organisation. • Undertake administrative tasks according to the protocols established for the team and required for reporting on the minimum data set reporting framework. • Contribute to the application of information systems to improve clinical practice and inform clinical decision making <p>Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate strong ongoing commitment to own professional development and the ability to support and develop knowledge and skills in others. • Provide discipline specific clinical supervision and support undergraduate and post-graduate students <p>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.</p>
<p>Key Working Relationships</p> <p>Internal:</p> <p>Western Health including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's and Children's Division • Mental Health and Wellbeing Division • Members of the Western Health Psychology Department • Other Allied Health, Medical, and Nursing Professionals at Western Health • Divisional Director, Allied Health

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External: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Consumers, their Families and/or Significant Others • External referrers • Primary health providers • Child and maternity health services • Department of Health • Department of Families, Fairness and Housing
Selection Criteria
Formal Qualification(s) & Required Registration(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Psychiatric Nurses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Registration as a registered nurse under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (2009) with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. ○ Bachelor Degree in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing or equivalent, or, Bachelor Degree in Nursing plus a Postgraduate qualification in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing. ○ Minimum 5 years post graduate experience • Occupational Therapists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Registration under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (2009) with the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia. ○ An approved Degree from a recognised school of Occupational Therapy or other qualifications approved for eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Occupational Therapy (Vic.). ○ Minimum 5 years post graduate experience • Psychologists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Registration as a Psychologist under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (2009) with practice endorsement as a Clinical, Forensic or Clinical Neuro Psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia. ○ Minimum 5 years post graduate experience ○ Hold current registration as a PsyBA Board Approved Supervisor for Higher Degree Students and Registrars. • Social Workers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An approved degree in Social Work and eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers. ○ Minimum 7 years post graduate experience
Essential <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 5 years experience working in an adult, child and adolescent or perinatal public mental health setting/s. • Skills in workplace coaching, mentoring and supervision • Demonstrated ability to identify and harness opportunities for innovation and collaboration on improving service delivery resulting in demonstrable outcomes. • Demonstrated ability to effectively communicate and engage across disciplines and at all management and staff levels • Demonstrated experience in implementing successful strategies to deliver service outcomes and KPIs within resource allocation. • Demonstrated understanding and participation in the implementation of organisational change, risk management, work health and safety and quality improvement in the workplace. • Demonstrated evidence of the use of critical thinking and problem solving skills including the ability to develop timely and constructive practice solutions. • Demonstrated ability to manage change and guide others through change processes and continuous quality improvement. • Ability to navigate IT systems and have proficiency in MS Office • Comply with all legal requirements pertaining to the position including responsibility for maintaining current registration as required by your professional organisation or other applicable Acts. • Demonstrated supervision and consultation skills, and experience in developing professional competencies. • Demonstrated ability to consult, liaise and negotiate sensitively with clients, treating teams, their family or carers and members of other community services. • Hold a current driver's licence and capacity to use in this role. • Be familiar with and adhere to relevant professional codes of ethics, the values of Western Health, and relevant legislation, in particular: the Mental Health Act (1986), the Guardianship & Administration Act (1986), Victorian

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Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 and clinicians' responsibilities under s141 Health Services Act with regard to the sharing of health information.

Desirable

- Experience in Consultation - Liaison role
- Experience in clinical management

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
- 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
- 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 or 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:

[Click here to enter the Employee's name.](#)

Employee's Signature:

Date:

[Click here to enter a date.](#)

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