

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Allied Health Assistant
Business Unit/Department:	Occupational Therapy
Division:	Allied Health
Award/Agreement:	Allied Health Professionals (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2021 – 2026
Classification:	Grade 3 (IN30)
Reports To:	As per duty statement, then to the Occupational Therapy Manager
Direct Reports:	N/A
Date Prepared/Updated:	13 May 2024

Position Purpose

The Allied Health Assistant working under the supervision and guidance of an Allied Health professional is required to assist with provision of quality, evidence based, patient centred care, in partnership with patients and their significant others. Allied Health Assistants are required to provide best care through use of competent clinical skills, effective communication and active participation within the Allied Health discipline/service and multidisciplinary team.

Grade 3 Allied Health Assistants are able to work with minimum supervision to implement therapeutic treatments and related activities for patients in accordance with care plans, seeking input from Allied Health Professionals as required. In addition, if required Grade 3 Allied Health Assistants can assist in the supervision of Grade 1 and 2 Allied Health Assistants and students.

Business Unit Overview

The Operations Directorate is one of the largest and most complex directorates within Western Health providing Western Health's patient care and contacts. These services range from outpatients to inpatients, theatres to Intensive Care, birthing rooms and Emergency Departments and many more services.

Allied Health provides a range of evidence based, client centred, specialist services at Western Health, across the care continuum, from admission within the emergency department through to discharge in the community. These services work across the spectrum of life, from neonates to the elderly. The predominant focus of Allied Health is the return and optimisation of an individual's function, and wellbeing, from both physical and psycho-social perspectives. Activity is aligned with Western Health's Best Care Model and CARES values. Allied Health involvement is pivotal to efficient and effective multidisciplinary team functions, discharge planning and patient centred care. Western Health employs a range of Allied Health disciplines, each with unique specialist tertiary training and skills, including:

- Audiology
- Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology

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- Exercise Physiology
- Language Services
- Nutrition and Dietetics
- Occupational Therapy
- Pastoral Services
- Physiotherapy
- Podiatry
- Social Work
- Speech Pathology

Key Responsibilities

- Demonstrate a commitment to the patient 'Charter of Healthcare Rights'
- Comply with the expected scope of the role and standards of performance in the role as described by the relevant professional bodies/industry standards
- Maintain registration and report any changes or limitations on practice if applicable
- Hold accountability for own actions and seek guidance and support from appropriate employees when limited by own skills and experience.
- Comply with confidentiality obligations with regard to patients, consumers and colleagues
- Comply with all Western Health policies and procedures
- Deliver high quality, person centred, interprofessional care in line with the "Best Care" framework
- Prepare for patient intervention and provide assistance with therapy sessions under the direction of the supervising allied health professional
- Demonstrate organisational skills and efficient time management to appropriately prioritise and complete workload
- Perform evidence based clinical services using a person centred approach under the direction of the supervising allied health professional
- Contribute to the evaluation of guidelines in immediate work area
- Respond where issues are within their level of responsibility, or able to raise issues with their supervising allied health professional
- Contribute to a culture that promotes effective teamwork, encourages cohesion and ensures staff feel valued and contributions are acknowledged
- Demonstrate open and effective communication (verbal, non-verbal, written and electronic) with consumers, other staff and service providers
- Consult with supervising allied health professional when dealing with difficult situations
- Demonstrate knowledge of resources relevant to work area
- Actively participate in regular clinical supervision, demonstrating ongoing development of clinical skills and reflective practice as identified in supervision plan
- Attend and participate at relevant team/service meetings in relation to patient care
- Demonstrate flexibility/responsiveness within professional practice/duties/roles and assumes extra responsibility as required to meet organisational priorities
- Participate in relevant working groups and meetings as requested
- Have a clear understanding of the service, the allied health professional role and allied health assistant role within the service
- Where designated, take a support role in student education that is timely, flexible and responsible
- Participate in learning that will enhance personal knowledge and continuing professional development
- Ensure that workload statistics, and other required information is entered in a timely and accurate manner

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

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Key Working Relationships
<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allied health professional supervisor • Allied health professionals within clinical area • Clinical area senior clinician and/or site coordination as appropriate • Other staff as relevant to the area of work • Allied health assistant staff <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients and their family/carers • Service providers and other agencies as appropriate
Selection Criteria
<p>Essential:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allied Health Assistant Certificate III or other appropriate qualification, as specified within the employment agreement • Computer literacy <p>Desirable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to follow instructions and work under the guidance of therapists. • Effective organisation, administration and time management. • Ability to effectively communicate with a range of people, including patients, families/carers, and staff • A current Victorian driver's licence • Previous experiences in a clinical area relevant to the position. • Familiarity with current philosophies and practices used by AH disciplines <p>Desirable Personal Attributes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self motivated • Compassionate and empathetic approach • Open to new ideas • Timely informed decision making • People orientated • Confidence in own ability • Builds rapport • Adaptable, flexible and persistent as required • Takes direction • Resilience • Positive outlook
Additional Requirements
<p>All employees are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
- Be aware of and comply with the Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees and other Western Health employment guidelines
- Work at any of the Western Health sites as directed, in accordance with business and organisational demands and priorities.

General Information

- Redeployment to other services 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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