

Position Description

Position title	Senior Dietitian - Grade 3
Department / Division	Nutrition & Food Services
Classification	Grade 3 Year 1 to Grade 3 Year 4 (AK1 - AK4)
Position reports to	Nutrition and Food Services Manager
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 Department of Nutrition and Food Services at The Royal Children's Hospital incorporates the clinical dietetic service, the Main Kitchen that caters for inpatient meals and the Central Formula Room that produces formula, enteral feeds and fortifies expressed breast milk to meet the nutritional needs of patients.</p> <p>Dietitians provide services to inpatient medical/specialty units and to specialist outpatient clinics and are available to consult on all aspects of infant and child nutrition including assessment, recommendations for nutritional</p>

management, implementation of therapeutic diets, enteral feeding and tube weaning within the hospital setting. We are a registered NDIS Nutrition service to provide disability-related nutrition supports to eligible patients. We also support a large number of families on our Home Enteral Nutrition Program.

The Nutrition and Food Services Department sits within the Allied Health Directorate within the Division of Nursing and Allied Health within the organisational structure at the Royal Children's Hospital.

ROLE PURPOSE

The primary responsibility of this position is provision of specialist high quality nutritional care to paediatric patients requiring dietary modification or nutritional support and their families; clinical workload will include specialist units of care. The role includes the provision of clinical leadership and mentoring within the dietetic team, care and participation in quality activities, and student supervision and teaching.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Work as a member of a multi-disciplinary team to ensure patient care is integrated and effective.
- Willingness to meet the credentialing requirements of the RCH generally and the Nutrition & Food Services Department.
- Nutritional care of paediatric patients requiring therapeutic diets or nutritional support, including specialist areas of dietetic practice. This may include rostered weekend on-call.
- Communicate effectively with patients and families to ensure their understanding and that their needs and views are included in plans and actions.
- As an experienced paediatric clinician provide clinical and professional support, clinical supervision and mentoring to less senior clinicians.
- Offer leadership in areas beyond clinical service including research, teaching, policy development to assist department development and maintenance of high-quality services.
- Build and maintain relationships with stakeholders, including food service and formula room staff, to ensure patient and ward needs are addressed effectively.
- Identify and facilitate opportunities that will contribute to improved quality of care for families through coordination and integration of care.
- Assist with the implementation of education and training programs to support skills development amongst a range of community stakeholders, including teaching in the Royal Children's Hospital Certificate of Paediatric Nutrition course.
- Participation as a member of the broader RCH team to develop and offer best care to children and families.
- Maintain quality standards and excellence in clinical outcomes through evidence based practice and partnerships with internal and external healthcare professionals.
- Participate in department activities such as quality projects, and to undertake student supervision and teaching
- Maintain an active program of professional development, relevant to the assigned clinical area of paediatric nutrition.
- Offer leadership in areas beyond clinical service including research, teaching, policy development to assist department development and maintenance of high quality services.
- Participate in clinical supervision in accordance with local standard operating procedures and/or the RCH Allied Health Clinical Supervision Guideline which are based on the DHHS Allied Health Clinical Supervision framework.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Essential:

- Meet the eligibility criteria for full Membership of Dietitians Australia (DA).

- Meet the eligibility criteria for the Accredited Practising Dietitian (APD) Program targets or equivalent.
- Hold a degree in Dietetics from an accredited course / university, or for overseas candidates The Dietetic Skills Recognition assessment administered by DA.
- Experience in clinical dietetics, minimum of 7 years, including sound background knowledge of paediatrics.
- Professional dietetic performance at an advanced level. This may be demonstrated through the AdvAPD credential or eligibility to meet the AdvAPD credential criteria.

Desirable:

- Membership of relevant professional organisations.
- Post-basic training in paediatric nutrition

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

- Well-developed communication skills, with ability to work with families of differing backgrounds and all levels of staff.
- Demonstrated ability to work in an acute care time-frame.
- Demonstrated ability and experience in nutritional management of infants, children and adolescents and their families.
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain working relationships with key internal and external stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to manage project/research work independently.
- Ability to work within a team and also independently.
- Ability to manage competing demands
- Sound problem-solving skills and ability to apply these in new applications of practice
- Professional demeanour
- Demonstrated commitment to ongoing education and skill development.
- Communication and supervision skills adequate to perform the role as supervisor/mentor in the department supervision and mentoring program and to support less senior staff in day to day clinical decision making
- Demonstrated ability to build and maintain working relationships with key internal and external stakeholders.
- Uphold the DA Code of Ethics and DA Code of Professional Conduct 2021

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Employees are required to undertake a National Criminal Record Check, a Working with Children Check and an NDIS Worker 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

All employees are required to adhere to the Royal Children's Hospital Values:

- 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

RCH COMPACT

All new and existing employees commit to the RCH Compact to contribute to a strong and respectful culture.

- 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

QUALITY, SAFETY AND IMPROVEMENT

RCH employees have a responsibility and accountability to contribute to the organisation's commitment to Quality, Safety and Improvement by:

- 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

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.

Position description last updated

May 2023