



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Role Title	Clinical Nurse
Classification Code	Registered Nurse Level 2 (RN2C)
Local Health Network	Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network
Hospital/ Service	Riverland Community Nursing
Division	Community Health
Department/Section / Unit/ Ward	Riverland Community Nursing
Role reports to	Nurse Unit Manager
Role Created/ Reviewed Date	March 2024
Criminal History Clearance Requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NPC – Unsupervised contact with vulnerable groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DHS Working With Children Check (WWCC) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NDIS Worker Screening
Immunisation Risk Category	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Category A <input type="checkbox"/> Category B <input type="checkbox"/> Category C

ROLE CONTEXT

Primary Objective(s) of role:

Provide nursing services in a variety of health service settings which has been consolidated by experience and/or further study with staff at this level developing from competent to proficient practitioners.

Accepts accountability for their own practice standards, activities delegated to others and the guidance and development of less experienced staff.

The Clinical Nurse role at this level continues to be predominantly clinical in nature; however employees are assigned appropriate portfolios. The allocation of portfolio responsibilities should be negotiated with each employee and be consistent with the career development plan for the employee as determined by their performance review/development plan.

Direct Reports:

> Nil

Key Relationships/ Interactions:

Internal

The Clinical Nurse:

- > Maintains a close working relationship with the Associate and Nurse Unit Manager.
Works as a Registered Nurse across the full scope of clinical practice in recognised area of expertise.
- > Maintains cooperative and productive working relationships within all members of the health care team
- > Supports and works collaboratively with less experienced members of the nursing team

External

- > Maintains relationships with non-government organisations or other government organisations to meet the needs of the client group.

Delegations:

> Nil

Challenges associated with Role:

Major challenges currently associated with the role include:

- > Keeping up to date with, implementing and monitoring evidence-based practice and quality management initiatives consistent with organisational policies
- > Dealing appropriately and relevantly with children, youth, women, and their families where there are multiple complexities, diverse cultural backgrounds and expectations of clients
- > Accepting responsibility for the maintenance of own knowledge and professional competence and contemporary practices.

Resilience:

SA Health employees persevere to achieve goals, stay calm under pressure and are open to feedback.

Performance Development

It is your responsibility to actively participate in the Performance Review & Development Program which will include a six (6) monthly review of your performance against the responsibilities and key result areas associated with your position and a requirement to demonstrate appropriate behaviours which reflect a commitment to South Australian Public Sector and SA Health values and strategic directions.

General Requirements:

*NB References to legislation, policies and procedures includes any superseding versions

Managers and staff are required to work in accordance with the Code of Ethics for South Australian Public Sector, Policies and Procedures and legislative requirements including but not limited to:

- > *Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)* maintaining your own health and safety and not place others at risk and comply with any reasonable instruction that is given to allow SA Health to comply with the WHS Act, and when relevant WHS Defined Officers must meet due diligence requirements.
- > *Return to Work Act 2014 (SA)*, facilitating the recovery, maintenance or early return to work of employees with work related injury / illness.
- > Equal Employment Opportunities (including prevention of bullying, harassment and intimidation).
- > *Children's Protection Act 1993 (Cth)* – 'Notification of Abuse or Neglect'.
- > Disability Discrimination.
- > *Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2012 (SA)*
- > SA Information Privacy Principles
- > Relevant Awards, Enterprise Agreements, Public Sector Act 2009 (SA), Health Care Act 2008 (SA), and the SA Health (Health Care Act) Human Resources Manual.
- > Relevant Australian Standards.
- > Duty to maintain confidentiality.
- > Smoke Free Workplace.
- > To value and respect the needs and contributions of SA Health Aboriginal staff and clients and commit to the development of Aboriginal cultural competence across all SA Health practice and service delivery.
- > Applying the principles of the South Australian Government's Risk Management Policy to work as appropriate.
- > *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (South Australia) Act 2010*
- > *Mental Health Act 2009 (SA)* and Regulations
- > *Controlled Substances Act 1984 (SA)* and Regulations
- > The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Registration Standards (including the Guidelines and Assessment Frameworks for Registration Standards)
- > The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia Professional Practice Codes and Guidelines (including Competency Standards, Codes of Ethics and Professional Conduct, Decision Making Framework and Professional Boundaries)
- > Professional Practice Standards and competencies consistent with area of practice as varied from time to time
- > SA Health Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network policies, procedures and standards.

Handling of Official Information:

- > By virtue of their duties, SA Health employees frequently access, otherwise deal with, and/or are aware of, information that needs to be treated as confidential.
- > SA Health employees will not access or attempt to access official information, including confidential patient information other than in connection with the performance by them of their duties and/or as authorised.
- > SA Health employees will not misuse information gained in their official capacity.
- > SA Health employees will maintain the integrity and security of official or confidential information for which they are responsible. Employees will also ensure that the privacy of individuals is maintained and will only release or disclose information in accordance with relevant legislation, industrial instruments, policy, or lawful and reasonable direction.

White Ribbon:

SA Health has a position of zero tolerance towards men's violence against women in the workplace and the broader community. In accordance with this, the incumbent must at all times act in a manner that is non-threatening, courteous, and respectful and will comply with any instructions, policies, procedures or guidelines issued by SA Health regarding acceptable workplace behaviour.

Cultural Statement:

Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMCLHN) welcomes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and values the expertise, cultural knowledge and life experiences they bring to the workplace. RMCLHN is a culturally inclusive work environment that is respectful of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

Special Conditions:

*NB Reference to legislation, policies and procedures includes any superseding versions

- > It is mandatory that no person, whether or not currently working in SA Health, will be eligible for appointment to a position in SA Health unless they have obtained a satisfactory National Police Certificate (NPC).
- > Prescribed Positions under the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016 must obtain a satisfactory Working With Children Check (WWCC) through the Department of Human Services (DHS) Screening Unit.
- > Approved Aged Care Provider Positions as defined under the Accountability Principles 1998 made in pursuant to the Aged Care Act 2007 (Cth) must obtain a satisfactory National Police Certificate (NPC) through the South Australian Police or from an accredited CrimTrac Provider confirming the clearance is for the purpose of unsupervised contact with vulnerable groups.
- > Prescribed positions under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Act 2013 must obtain a satisfactory NDIS Worker Screening Check through the Department of Human Services (DHS) Screening Unit.
- > NPCs must be renewed every 3 years thereafter from date of issue.
- > WWCCs and NDIS Worker Screening Checks must be renewed every 5 years thereafter from date of issue.
- > Must be an Australian Resident or hold a current working visa.
- > Appointment is subject to immunisation risk category requirements (see page 1). There may be ongoing immunisation requirements that must be met.
- > Depending on work requirements the incumbent may be transferred to other locations across SA Health to perform work appropriate to classification, skills and capabilities either on a permanent or temporary basis subject to relevant provisions of the Public Sector Act 2009 for Public Sector employees or the SA Health (Health Care Act) Human Resources Manual for Health Care Act employees.
- > The incumbent may be required to participate in Counter Disaster activities including attendance, as required, at training programs and exercises to develop the necessary skills required to participate in responses in the event of a disaster and/or major incident.
- > The incumbent may be required to undertake further study to obtain a qualification which supports the needs of the health unit. Where further study is required, Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network will provide support and assistance in accordance with provisions of the SA Health (Health Care Act) Human Resources Manual. Note, however, this Special Condition does not apply to existing LHN employees with continuous employment within the LHN which commenced prior to 1 October 2016.

Key Result Area and Responsibilities	
Key Result Areas	Major Responsibilities
Direct/indirect patient/client care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Provide proficient, person centred, clinical nursing care and/or individual case management to patients/clients in a defined clinical area. > Monitoring patient/client care plans to ensure appropriate care outcomes are achieved on a daily basis. > Oversee the provision of nursing care within a team/unit. > Required to, within pre-determined guidelines, and in a multi-disciplinary primary health care setting, assess clients, select, and implement different therapeutic interventions, and/or support programs and evaluate progress.
Support of health service systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Assists and supports the Nurse Unit Manager or equivalent in management, quality improvement, clinical, and education activities. > Plan and coordinate services including those from other disciplines. > Act to resolve local and/or immediate nursing care or service delivery problems. > Support change management processes. > Required to contribute to a wider or external team working on complex or organisation wide projects such as clinical protocols, guidelines and/or process mapping.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Participate in clinical teaching, overseeing learning experience, and goal setting for students, new staff and staff with less experience. > Assist the Nurse Unit Manager and Nurse Educators to maintain a learning culture by being a resource person, encouraging reflection and professional development, and assisting others to maintain portfolios/records of learning. > Required to participate in and/or provide clinical teaching and/or research.
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Participate in clinical auditing, clinical trials and/or evaluative research. > Integrate advanced theoretical knowledge, evidence from a range of sources and own experience to devise and achieve agreed patient/client care outcomes. > Assist the Nurse Unit Manager or equivalent to maintain and record monitoring and evaluative research activities in the ward/unit.
Professional leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Promote continuity and consistency of care in collaboration with the Nurse Unit Manager or equivalent of the ward/unit/service. > Provide shift by shift leadership in the provision of nursing care within a team or unit and facilitate patient flow. > Act as a resource person within an area based on knowledge, experience, and skills. > Required to undertake specific activity and/or portfolio responsibility.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

ESSENTIAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Educational/Vocational Qualifications

- > Registered or eligible for registration as a Nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia and who holds, or who is eligible to hold, a current practicing certificate.

Personal Abilities/Aptitudes/Skills:

- > Effective communication, problem solving, conflict resolution and negotiation skills.
- > Ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team.
- > Ability to prioritise workload and meet set timelines, whilst working under minimal supervision.
- > Ability to be creative, innovative and flexible when approaching issues within the clinical setting.

Experience

- > Registered Nurse with at least 3 years, full time equivalent, post registration experience.
- > Experience in the use of computer packages e.g., Microsoft Word, Excel
- > Demonstrated competence in the relevant area of nursing practice in accordance with the appropriate standards of practice.
- > Experience in the leadership and direction of student nurses, enrolled nurses, and less experienced registered nurses.

Knowledge

- > Knowledge and understanding of relevant legislation, industrial agreements, standards, codes, ethics and competency standards.
- > Knowledge of Quality Improvement Systems as applied to a healthcare setting.
- > Knowledge of contemporary nursing and health care issues.

DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS

Educational/Vocational Qualifications

- > Where applicable, qualifications relevant to practice setting.
- > Tertiary qualifications in nursing or human services related discipline.

Personal Abilities/Aptitudes/Skills:

- > Ability to work within a team framework that fosters an environment that develops staff potential.
- > Skills in using computers and software relevant to the area of practice.

Experience

- > Experience with quality improvement activities.
- > Experience in evaluating the results of nursing research and integrating, where relevant, the results into nursing practice.

Knowledge

- > Knowledge of the South Australian Public Health System.
- > Knowledge of contemporary professional nursing issues

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

Organisational Overview:

Our mission at SA Health is to lead and deliver a comprehensive and sustainable health system that aims to ensure healthier, longer and better lives for all South Australians. We will achieve our objectives by strengthening primary health care, enhancing hospital care, reforming mental health care and improving the health of Aboriginal people.

SA Health is committed to a health system that produces positive health outcomes by focusing on health promotion, illness prevention and early intervention. We will work with other government agencies and the community to address the environmental, socioeconomic, biological and behavioural determinants of health, and to achieve equitable health outcomes for all South Australians

Our Legal Entities:

SA Health is the brand name for the health portfolio of services and agencies responsible to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

The legal entities include but are not limited to Department for Health and Wellbeing, Central Adelaide Local Health Network, Northern Adelaide Local Health Network, Southern Adelaide Local Health Network, Women's and Children's Health Network, Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network, Eyre and Far North Local Health Network, Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network, Limestone Coast Local Health Network, Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network, Yorke and Northern Local Health Network and SA Ambulance Service.

SA Health Challenges:

The health system is facing the challenges of an ageing population, increased incidence of chronic disease, workforce shortages, and ageing infrastructure. The SA Health Care Plan has been developed to meet these challenges and ensure South Australian's have access to the best available health care in hospitals, health care centres and through GPs and other providers.

Health Network/ Division/ Department:

Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network aspires to be the best provider of rural and remote health services in Australia. RMCLHN, through the inspiration and hard work of its people, delivers high quality and innovative health services to improve health outcomes for country South Australians.

RMCLHN delivers a comprehensive range of health services in hospital and community settings according to population needs. It focuses on integrating its service delivery with metropolitan hospitals and other service providers in country locations. The safety and quality of health services in country South Australia is of primary importance. RMCLHN participates in rigorous national accreditation processes and engage local community members to provide insight and knowledge of the needs of consumers and potential strategies to achieve the best service.

RMCLHN Values

The values of RMCLHN are used to indicate the type of conduct required by our employees and the conduct that our customers can expect from our health service:

- > **Respectful** - We treat everyone as equals and value each other's sense of worth.
 - > **Motivated** - We are driven to excel and provide the best quality care to our consumers and communities, when and where they need it.
 - > **Compassionate** - We take care of others and act with kindness, empathy, patience and understanding, in all that we do.
 - > **Consumer Focused** - We partner and collaborate with consumers, their families, carers and communities, to ensure the planning, delivery and evaluation of our health services is tailored to their needs.
 - > **Accountable** - We are dedicated to fulfilling our duties and obligations as a public health service, and endeavour to act with honesty and integrity in all that we do.
 - > **Resourceful** - We are agile, adaptable and able to deal skillfully, creatively and promptly with new situations and challenges
 - > **Excellence** - We strive to continually improve and redefine processes, exceed standards and expectations, and deliver access to high quality contemporary care for people in our communities
 - > **Service** - We serve people and our communities courteously, fairly and effectively
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Integrity Statement

As a public sector employee, you have the responsibility to maintain ethical behaviour and professional integrity standards. It is expected that you act in accordance with the Code of Ethics, and contribute to a culture of Integrity within SA Health.

Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector provides an ethical framework for the public sector and applies to all public service employees:

- > Democratic Values - Helping the government, under the law to serve the people of South Australia.
- > Service, Respect and Courtesy - Serving the people of South Australia.
- > Honesty and Integrity- acting at all times in such a way as to uphold the public trust.
- > Accountability- Holding ourselves accountable for everything we do.
- > Professional Conduct Standards- Exhibiting the highest standards of professional conduct.

The Code recognises that some public sector employees are also bound by codes of conduct relevant to their profession.

SA Health acknowledges culture and identity as being integral to Aboriginal health and wellbeing and is committed to improving the health of Aboriginal people.

SA Health and RMCLHN's vision for Reconciliation is the gap is closed on Aboriginal health disadvantage; and Aboriginal people share the same rights, respect and access to opportunities and benefits as all South Australians.

Approvals

Role Description Approval

I acknowledge that the role I currently occupy has the delegated authority to authorise this document.

Name: _____

Role Title: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Role Acceptance

Incumbent Acceptance

I have read and understand the responsibilities associated with role, the role and organisational context and the values of RMCLHN as described within this document.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____