



**ROLE DESCRIPTION**

<b>Role Title:</b>	Nurse Consultant		
<b>Classification Code:</b>	RN3A	Position Number	M57565 / M42149
<b>LHN/ HN/ SAAS/ DHA:</b>	Central Adelaide Local Health Network (LHN)		
<b>Site/Directorate</b>	Royal Adelaide Hospital/The Queen Elizabeth Hospital		
<b>Division:</b>	Specialty Medicine 2		
<b>Department/Section / Unit/ Ward:</b>	Palliative Care		
<b>Role reports to:</b>	Reports to Nursing Lead, CALHN, Speciality Medicine 2		
<b>Role Created/ Reviewed Date:</b>	Sept 2024		
<b>Criminal History Clearance Requirements:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Aged (NPC) <input type="checkbox"/> Working With Children’s Check (WWCC) (DHS) <input type="checkbox"/> Vulnerable (NPC) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Probity (NPC)		
<b>Immunisation Risk Category:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Category A (direct contact with blood or body substances) <input type="checkbox"/> Category B (indirect contact with blood or body substances) <input type="checkbox"/> Category C (minimal patient contact)		

**ROLE CONTEXT**

<b>Primary Objective(s) of role:</b>
<p>Employees classified at this level provide clinical nursing expertise for palliative care patients and their families requiring specialist care. Provide clinical leadership in the area of palliative care, and may work in a variety of clinical settings. Employees classified at this level are experts within their area and stream of practice and have a significant degree of autonomy and decision making.</p> <p>Various practice models may be used to enact this role, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Primarily providing direct expert nursing and consultative care for patients in the community requiring specialist palliative care;</li> <li>&gt; Providing clinical leadership to nurses/midwives;</li> <li>&gt; Coordination and leadership of projects and/or programs that contribute clinical expertise to improve patient/client/service outcomes;</li> <li>&gt; Nurse Practitioner Candidate: Nurses classified at this level are working towards becoming an expert and being able to provide extended practice in their specialist field, within their scope of practice. They develop their capacity for extended practice by increasing their knowledge and skills through ongoing clinical exposure, post graduate qualifications and mentoring, with supervision by an authorised nurse practitioner and/or medical staff.</li> </ul> <p>Employees in this role accept accountability for their nursing/midwifery practice, the outcomes of nursing/midwifery practices for the specific patient/client group, the professional advice given, delegations of care made and for addressing inconsistencies between practice and policy.</p>

<b>Direct Reports:</b>

### Key Relationships/ Interactions:

#### Internal

- Maintains close collaborative working relationships with all level 3 and level 4 Nurses/ Midwives.
- Reports to and collaborates with the CALHN Palliative Care Team in clinical matters.
- Maintains cooperative and productive working relationships within all members of the health care team including key organisations associated with palliative care services.
- Supports and works collaboratively with less experienced members of the nursing team.

#### External

- Non-government organisations or other government organisations/agencies

### Challenges associated with Role:

Major challenges currently associated with the role include:

- Working with patients and families facing death and loss, where there are multiple complexities and diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Keeping professionally up to date with relevant research, technological advances and models of care.
- Accepting responsibility for the maintenance of own knowledge and professional competence and contemporary practices.
- Working collaboratively within the multidisciplinary team and across organisational Divisions/sites and promotes communication processes to enable best patient/client outcomes
- Maintaining personal resilience to be able to manage safely in a hospice environment
- Working appropriately and in a culturally respectful way with patients and families where there are multiple complexities, diverse cultural backgrounds and expectations of clients.

### Delegations:

Refer to [HR Delegations](#) and [Finance Delegations](#)

## Special Conditions:

- It is mandatory that no person, whether or not already working in SA Health, may be appointed to a position in SA Health unless they have provided the a satisfactory current Criminal and Relevant History Screening, as required by the *SA Health Criminal and Relevant History Screening Policy Directive*.
- For appointment in a Prescribed Position under the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act (2016)*, a current Working with Children Check (WWCC) is required from the Department for Human Services Screening Unit. For other positions, a satisfactory National Police Certificate (NPC) assessment is required.
- For 'Prescribed Positions' under the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act (2016)*, the individual's WWCCs must be renewed every 5 years from the date of issue; and for 'Approved Aged Care Provider Positions' every 3 years from date of issue as required by the *Accountability Principles 2014* issued pursuant to the *Aged Care Act 1997 (Cth)*.
- Appointment is subject to immunisation risk category requirements. 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.

## General Requirements:

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

- *Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)* 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.
- Meet immunisation requirements as outlined by the *Immunisation for Health Care Workers in South Australia Policy Directive*.
- Equal Employment Opportunities (including prevention of bullying, harassment and intimidation).
- *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 (SA)* 'Notification of Abuse or Neglect'.
- Disability Discrimination.
- *Independent Commissioner Against Corruption Act 2012 (SA)*.
- *Information Privacy Principles Instruction*.
- Relevant Awards, Enterprise Agreements, *Public Sector Act 2009*, *Health Care Act 2008* 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.

The SA Health workforce contributes to the safety and quality of patient care by adhering to the South Australian Charter of Health Care Rights, understanding the intent of the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards and participating in quality improvement activities as necessary.

## Performance Development

The incumbent will be required to participate in the organisation's Performance Review & Development Program which will include a regular review of the incumbent's performance against the responsibilities and key result areas associated with their position and a requirement to demonstrate appropriate behaviours which reflect a commitment to SA Health values and strategic directions.

**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 Commitment:**

CALHN welcomes and respects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and values the expertise, cultural knowledge and life experiences they bring to the workplace. In acknowledgement of this, CALHN is committed to increasing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Workforce.

**Resilience:**

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

## Key Result Area and Responsibilities

Key Result Areas	Major Responsibilities
Direct/indirect patient/client care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Integrate contemporary information and evidence with personal experience to support the decision making, innovative thinking and objective analysis that is expected at this level eg Expert clinical knowledge underpins and informs their ability to support, lead and/or provide expert clinical care to improve and optimise nursing/midwifery care.</li> <li>&gt; Provide direct, expert clinical nursing/midwifery care, select and implement different therapeutic interventions, provide individual case management to a defined population of patients/clients and evaluate progress.</li> <li>&gt; Contribute expert nursing/midwifery assessment and advice to local clinical teams to achieve integrated nursing/midwifery care within a risk management framework.</li> <li>&gt; Undertake the nursing/midwifery care role with a significant degree of independent clinical decision making in the area of personal expertise.</li> <li>&gt; Be required in a multidisciplinary primary health care setting to apply nursing/midwifery expertise to assess clients, select and implement different therapeutic interventions and/or support programs and evaluate patient/client progress.</li> <li>&gt; Effective complex discharge planning / hospital avoidance through the provision of education, equipment and referral.</li> </ul>
Support of health service systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Use available information systems: to inform decision making, to implement and co-ordinate processes for quality improvement, to monitor and analyse incidents and accidents, to ensure quality and safety is not compromised, to evaluate outcomes and convey information to staff.</li> <li>&gt; Contribute to the development of, implementation of, and monitoring of corporate policies and processes and lead in their area of expertise.</li> <li>&gt; Management of resources with due diligence.</li> <li>&gt; Implement and co-ordinate within span of control, processes for quality improvement and continuity within corporate risk management and nursing/midwifery professional practice frameworks.</li> <li>&gt; Identifying hazards, assessing risks and implementing, monitoring and maintaining hazard control measures.</li> <li>&gt; Maintain productive working relationships and manage conflict resolution.</li> <li>&gt; Contribute to the development and sustainability of nursing/midwifery skills for the needs of the specific population group using systems of resource and standards promulgation.</li> <li>&gt; Contribute specific expertise to nursing/midwifery practice through clinical protocol and standards development.</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Hold a contemporary professional practice portfolio containing evidence of postgraduate qualifications, learning and practice experience that underpin a demonstrable application of knowledge and skills commensurate with the level and type of practice expected of the role.</li> <li>&gt; Ensure mechanisms are in place to support ongoing education where work and learning are integrated.</li> <li>&gt; Apply and share expert clinical knowledge to improve patient/client care outcomes.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contribute clinical expertise to learning environments, which may include individual/team capability development and/or post registration clinical teaching.</li> </ul>
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Contribute specific expertise to monitor and evaluate research activities in order to improve nursing or midwifery practice and service delivery;</li> <li>&gt; Establishing, implementing and evaluating systems, which ensure best practice/evidence and patient/client outcomes;</li> <li>&gt; Applies evidenced based recommendations to improve practice and service function;</li> <li>&gt; Contribute to clinical practice research.</li> </ul>
Professional leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Provides leadership and direction, acts a role model, mentor, consultant and resource person;</li> <li>&gt; Lead nursing/midwifery clinical practice within the professional practice framework established by the Director of Nursing/Midwifery and/or lead a multidisciplinary team;</li> <li>&gt; Contribute to the redesign of care and treatment practices.</li> </ul>

## 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:**

- > Ability to practice with kindness and compassion and demonstrate an understanding of the Palliative Care Philosophy of Care
- > Capacity to manage a compassionate and resilient approach to death and dying
- > Effective leadership skills including highly developed skills in communication, problem solving, conflict resolution and negotiation skills.
- > Ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team.
- > Ability to prioritise workload and meet set timelines.
- > Demonstrated ability to foster a workplace environment that develops staff potential.
- > Proven ability for flexibility, innovation and creativity with in the whole of service setting.
- > Demonstrated ability in the leadership and facilitation of change management.
- > Demonstrated ability in leading and promoting consumer engagement initiatives
- > Must hold a current SA Drivers Licence

#### **Experience**

- Registered Nurse and or Midwife with at least 3 years post registration experience.
- Demonstrated competence in the relevant area of nursing and or midwifery practice in accordance with the relevant standards.
- Experience in the supervision of students, enrolled nurses and less experienced registered nurses and or midwives

#### **Knowledge**

- > Knowledge and understanding of the Nurse Consultant's role within a specialist Palliative Care setting.
- > 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/midwifery and health care issues.

### **DESIRABLE CHARACTERISTICS**

#### **Educational/Vocational Qualifications**

- > Tertiary qualifications in Palliative Care or other 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 in Sunrise EMR and palliative care clinical assessment tools
- > Ability to analyse complex clinical data.
- > Ability to undertake presentations to community and professional groups.

#### **Experience**

- Experience with quality improvement methodologies for clinical activities
- Experience in evaluating the results of nursing and or Midwifery research and integrating, where relevant, the results into nursing and or midwifery practice.
- Experience in clinical management and leadership roles.

#### **Knowledge**

- > Knowledge of the South Australian Public Health System.
- > Knowledge of contemporary palliative professional nursing/midwifery and health care 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 Department for Health and Wellbeing is an administrative unit under the Public Sector Act 2009.

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

### 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.

### Central Adelaide Local Health Network:

CALHN is one of five Local Health Networks (LHNs) in South Australia established in July 2011. CALHN is responsible for the following health services:

- Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH)
- The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (TQEH)
- Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre (HRC)
- St Margaret's Rehabilitation Hospital (SMRH)
- Glenside Health Service (GHS) Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit; Inpatient Rehabilitation Services and Acute beds only
- Adelaide Dental Hospital (ADH).

CALHN also has governance over numerous community mental health and primary health services including Prison Health Service, SA Dental Service and DonateLife SA. Of note also is governance of the Statewide Clinical Support Services (SCSS) including Imaging, Pathology and Pharmacy, responsibility of which has vacillated between CALHN and DHW over the past few years.

CALHN is one of three metropolitan LHNs and its core population is approximately 390,000 people. CALHN also provides services to patients from other SA networks, rural and remote areas, the Northern Territory, NSW (Broken Hill) and western parts of Victoria. These services usually relate to complex services such as head and neck cancer, radiation therapy, cardiac surgery, spinal surgery or rehabilitation.

CALHN's purpose is to deliver quality and sustainable healthcare. While the delivery of high quality patient care is our number one priority, we face a significant challenge in achieving financial sustainability. A quality-assured financial recovery plan has been developed to meet these challenges. Through effective leadership and change management, the plan which is applicable to all Directorates and departments, will be implemented over the next three years.

## Values

### Central Adelaide Local Health Network Values

Our shared values confirm our common mission by promoting an organisational climate where the patient's needs are put first and where the teamwork and professionalism of our workforce help us to attract and retain the best staff. These values guide our decisions and actions.

<b>Patient Centred:</b>	Our patients are the reason we are here and we will provide the best service to our patients and customers
<b>Team Work:</b>	We value each other and work as a team to provide the best care for our patients
<b>Respect:</b>	We respect each other, our patients and their families by recognising different backgrounds and choices, and acknowledging that they have the right to our services
<b>Professionalism:</b>	We recognise that staff come from varied professional and work backgrounds and that our desire to care for patients unites our professional approach to practice

### 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.

## Approvals

### Role Description Approval

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

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Role Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Role Acceptance

#### Incumbent Acceptance

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

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_