

Function Statement

Allied Health Assistant (Occupational Therapy)



The Statement of Duties associated with this role is generic and is used for all Allied Health Assistant positions in the Tasmanian Health Service North. The purpose of this Function Statement is to give more information about the requirements of this role. Please read this Function Statement alongside the Statement of Duties.

Title	Allied Health Assistant (AHA)
Business Unit	Occupational Therapy (OT)
Location	Launceston General Hospital (LGH)
Business Unit Description	<p>The Occupational Therapy department is a dynamic and creative team who enable people of all ages to participate in everyday activities they find meaningful. These activities may include taking care of oneself and others (for example dressing, showering, preparing meals), leisure activities and hobbies, working, studying, volunteering and sleeping. Occupational therapists work in many different settings; in the Tasmanian Health Service North, this includes the LGH emergency department, inpatient and rehabilitation wards, and outpatient and community services.</p> <p>AHAs assist in delivering OT services under the direction of an occupational therapist. This position works with adult patients at LGH who are admitted to the surgical and medical wards or who are attending outpatient surgical clinics.</p> <p>OT programs are individually tailored for patients. AHAs may be requested to deliver these programs to patients daily, every few days or as a single intervention only.</p> <p>Examples of occupational therapy programs delivered to patients by allied health assistants include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• learning how to dress or prepare meals using one hand• practicing independent and safe showering and dressing after hip or knee replacement surgery, following any surgical precautions• practicing moving out of bed for social activities/meals• learning how to drive a wheelchair• providing education about conserving energy and reducing falls• providing education in how to set up and use equipment (such as kitchen, dressing or toileting aids) following an accident, surgery or long hospital stay.



	<p>AHAs also monitor supplies and resources such as patient education booklets, therapy equipment and assessment forms.</p> <p>AHAs may also assist occupational therapists when visiting patients in their home or community.</p>
Specific Duties/Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assist in the daily functioning of the OT service under the direction of the occupational therapists• Deliver OT programs to patients on medical and surgical wards• Deliver education to patients attending outpatient surgical clinics or to patients admitted to surgical and medical wards• Assist occupational therapists when visiting patients in their home or community environments
Preferred Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience working as an Allied Health Assistant in Occupational therapy OR experience working in a health care setting
Preferred Skills (see Statement of Duties)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please see selection criteria in the Statement of Duties• Completion of an accredited course in Allied Health Assistance, or a commitment to attain this qualification• Adaptability to work in a fast paced environment with variable and often novel interventions• Current driver's licence

