

Statement of Duties



Title: Addiction Medicine Specialist	Job Number: Generic	Effective Date: September 2008
Group: Statewide System Development	Operational Unit: Mental Health Services	
Section: Alcohol & Drug Services North/North West	Location: North/North West	
Award: Salaried Medical Practitioner's Industrial Agreement	Stream: Specialist Medical Practitioner	
Level: 1-4 dependant on qualifications and experience	Job Status: As per contract	
Reports to: Clinical Director, Alcohol and Drug Service	Number of Subordinates: Nil	

Focus of Duties:

- Work within a multidisciplinary health team framework to facilitate the comprehensive assessment, planning and implementation of appropriate clinical management for persons who are dependent on alcohol and or drugs in accordance with the philosophies of the National Drug Strategy.
- Provide high level direct patient care and specialist advice to ensure high quality service provision in the area of addiction medicine.
- Provide clinical leadership within the drug and alcohol service and across the alcohol and other drugs sector.
- To participate in the provision of addiction medicine consultation and liaison services to the acute care services, primary health services such as mental health and general practitioners.
- Practice in accordance with Government legislation and regulations (including the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Act 1968), Primary Health Care principles, Alcohol and Drug Service policies, Agency policies, legal requirements and professional competencies, to provide specialist alcohol and drug interventions and nursing care

Duties:

1. Undertake comprehensive specialist medical assessments and provide interventions and treatment of drug and or alcohol dependence and related concerns including ambulatory medical withdrawal services and opioid pharmacotherapy.
2. Work as part of a multi-disciplinary team to provide evidence based treatment and prevention services for individuals and their families who may be physically and or psychologically dependent on legal and or illegal substances.

3. Provide education to patients, particularly in relation to healthy lifestyles, adaptive behaviour changes, education about avoiding or minimizing risk behaviours and pre and post counselling in relation to HIV, HBV and HCV infection.
4. Facilitate the interdisciplinary approach to the assessment, planning and delivery of comprehensive services to clients of the Alcohol and Drug Service by working co-operatively and constructively within a multi-disciplinary team, actively promoting harmonious working relationships and resolution of conflict.
5. Provide medical consultation/liaison services to medical practitioners and other health professionals in relation to the appropriate management of people who have a drug related problems.
6. Use well developed negotiation, mediation, communication and interpersonal skills to develop effective working relationships with clients, health professionals and service providers.
7. Contribute to ongoing improved quality of care for clients by participating in service planning and enhancements, including development of policy documentation and procedural initiatives, service development and accreditation activities as necessary.
8. Assist in the provision of orientation and supervision to students and staff of the Alcohol and Drug Service.
9. Participate in training programs for undergraduate and postgraduate students of nursing, allied health and medicine and the training of new prescribers to the Opioid Pharmacotherapy Program.
10. Maintain current knowledge of contemporary alcohol and drug interventions, professional medical practice and participate in relevant research.
11. The incumbent can expect to be allocated duties, not specifically mentioned in this document, that are within the capacity, qualifications and experience normally expected from persons occupying jobs at this classification level.

Scope of Work Performed:

- Provide specialist medical intervention including assessments, detoxification, pharmacotherapy and specialist advice including reports.
- Clinical supervision, leadership and professional practice support will be provided by the Clinical Director, Alcohol and Drug Service.
- For operational management issues this position reports to the Area Manager Alcohol and Drug Service North West.
- The specialist medical officer will be expected to exercise a significant level of independent clinical judgement in completing the primary tasks, while taking into account relevant policies and protocols.
- Practice within the professional standards as determined by the Medical Board of Tasmania.
- Comply with and utilise legislation, procedures, policies, regulations and standards which impact upon the position, including the State Services Act 2000; and policies and procedures relating to the delivery of alcohol and drug services; and contemporary human resource management requirements and practices, such as

workplace health and safety, equal employment opportunity and anti-discrimination policies.

Pre-employment Conditions:

Essential Requirements:

Evidence of the following must be provided prior to appointment to the job:

- A medical practitioner who is registered under the provisions of the Medical Practitioners Registration Act 1996 and who holds a qualification recognized as a specialist medical qualification in accordance with the provisions of the Commonwealth/State Agreement on Mutual Recognition, which is relevant to his/her appointment.

Pre-employment Checks

The Commissioner has determined that the person nominated for this job is to satisfy a pre-employment check before taking up the appointment, on promotion or transfer.

The following checks are to be conducted:

1. Conviction check in the following areas:
 - a) crimes of violence
 - b) sex related offences
 - c) serious drug offences
 - d) crimes involving dishonesty
2. Identification checks
3. Disciplinary action in previous employment check

Selection Criteria:

1. Comprehensive knowledge of contemporary standards and policies used in the treatment and prevention of alcohol and drug dependence including, alcohol and drug assessments, interventions and prevention activities.
2. Demonstrated commitment to ongoing professional development of knowledge and skills the drug and alcohol area, including actively contributing to improving standards and participation in research.
3. Demonstrated capacity to exercise a significant level of independent clinical judgement in completing the primary tasks, while taking into account relevant policies and protocols.
4. Demonstrated to work as part of a multidisciplinary team and to provide clinical leadership to the multidisciplinary team decision making process.
5. Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively both written and orally with well developed communication, counselling and interpersonal skills.

6. Demonstrated ability to provide effective training and consultancy to medical practitioners, hospital medical officers and to other health care workers and trainees, through the provision of tuition, education, on the job learning and mentoring in line with adult learning principles.
7. Ability to comply with the State Services Act 2000, contemporary human resource management requirements and practices, including Workplace Health and Safety, Equal Employment Opportunity and Anti-discrimination policies

Working Environment:

- Employment is conditional upon the recommendation of the Credentials and Clinical Privileges Committee that the applicant is able to fully and adequately fulfill the responsibilities of the job.

The Department of Health and Human Services is committed to providing the highest levels of healthcare and services, and values equity, diversity, initiative, flexibility, creativity, teamwork, conduct, occupational health and safety and the capacity to make a difference.

The minimum responsibilities required of officers and employees of the State Service are contained in sections 7(1), 8 and 9 of the *State Service Act 2000*.

The *State Service Act 2000* and the Commissioner's Directions (employment directives) can be found on the State Service Commissioner's website at <http://www.osscc.tas.gov.au>.

This job may exercise delegations in accordance with a range of Acts, Regulations, Awards, administrative authorities and functional arrangements mandated by Statutory office holders including the Secretary of the Department. The relevant Organisational Unit Manager can provide details to the occupant of delegations applicable to this job.

DHHS is a smoke free work environment. Smoking is prohibited in all State Government workplaces including vehicles and vessels.

Health Care Workers with the Department of Health and Human Services are expected to comply with the Agency's Hepatitis B Policy and the Tasmanian Code of Practice for Health Care Workers.

The Agency's policy classifies the levels of risk to employees, who have a risk of exposure to Hepatitis B higher than the normal population, as either:

- Category 2. Employees whose employment arrangements and duties place them at a higher than normal population risk of exposure to blood or body fluids.
- Category 3. Employees who are, or potentially will be, directly involved in the conduct of exposure prone procedures.

For employees who occupy jobs classified as Category 2 level of risk it is strongly recommended that the occupant either demonstrate current immunity or previous seroconversion to Hepatitis B or demonstrate immunity following vaccination.

For employees who occupy jobs classified as Category 3 level of risk the occupant will be required to either demonstrate current immunity or previous seroconversion to Hepatitis B or demonstrate immunity following vaccination.

Approved: _____ Date: _____
(Delegate)