



**Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellowship
ST VINCENT'S HOSPITAL, SYDNEY
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

POSITION TITLE:	Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellowship Position	
DEPARTMENT:	Heart Lung Stream (Thoracic Medicine)	
AGREEMENT:	The Named NSW (non-Declared) AHO Medical Officer Agreement	
CLASSIFICATION:	Registrar	
CAPABILITY LEVEL:	Level 2	
REPORTS TO:	Clinical Lead of Long COVID Service (A/Prof Anthony Byrne) Nurse Unit Manager (Jessica Cunningham)	
STATUS:	Temporary Max Term	Shift work required. Yes
HOURS:	28 hours per week	
EMPLOYMENT SCREENING		
NATIONAL CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK:	Yes	
WORKING WITH CHILDREN BACKGROUND CHECK:	Yes	
WORKING WITH AGED CARE CHECK:	No	
VACCINATION CATEGORY	Category A	
DIRECT REPORTS:	Nil	
KEY RELATIONSHIPS (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL):	<p>Key Internal Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clinical Lead Long COVID Services• Inpatient teams• Nursing and Allied Health staff• Hospital Administration <p>Key External Relationships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patients and their carers, family members• Medical Specialists• General Practitioners	
KEY RESPONSIBILITY:	<p>The Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow is a unique and completely novel position that will gain important sub-specialty training in Long COVID and complete a PhD during the employment term.</p> <p>The successful candidate will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work as part of, and contribute to Australia's leading Long COVID clinical service• Work closely with the Long COVID lead respiratory physician to develop and advance existing and new clinical (and laboratory) based research projects.• Establish professional relationships with the Long COVID consultant physicians, CNC, other medical specialties, physiotherapist, occupational therapist and psychologist.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise discretion and sensitivity, and maintain confidentiality. • Demonstrates leadership within a team environment and actively contribute to the activities that strengthen the Long COVID clinical service at SVH. • Demonstrate a commitment to high quality patient care and research interest to aspects related to acute and post-acute COVID-19 disease. • Communicate effectively and in a timely fashion. • Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow is required to communicate at a high level with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders. Including but not limited to; St Vincent's healthcare Australia, Sacred Heart Rehabilitation, The Curran Foundation, St Vincent's Centre for Applied Medical Research, Human Research Ethics Committee (clinical research), St Vincent's private Hospital, External Long COVID and Respiratory/Infectious Disease clinics, General practitioners, Community Nursing including Hospital In the Home and Virtual Care services. • The Fellow needs to display sound communication skills to deal effectively with administrative and medical staff. <p>The duties and responsibilities of the position will primarily include respiratory and sleep medicine. However, given the nature of Long COVID, general medicine, cardiovascular medicine, neurology and rehabilitation medicine are relevant. There are ample opportunities to coordinate and implement clinical (and laboratory based) research related to Long COVID.</p> <p>The primary focus of this position will be the Long COVID service of St Vincent's hospital and the provision of outpatient and occasionally inpatient care of patients with suspected or confirmed "Long COVID". The complex and multi-system nature of this new disease requires comprehensive assessments and investigation with a collaborative approach to patient care across a range of medical and allied health disciplines.</p> <p>There are opportunities to consult and manage hospitalised patients with acute COVID-19 disease as these patients are known to have a high risk of progressing to long COVID. However, the focus of this position is the outpatient investigation and management of Long COVID patients, particularly those with a respiratory predominant phenotype. The coordination of care of these patients and interaction with primary care (GPs), medical and other healthcare professionals is a key focus of this position.</p> <p>Within the framework of the philosophy and policies of the Hospital to provide and maintain a high quality of individual patient care. To learn those skills deemed necessary and desirable for the practice of Thoracic Medicine by the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ). To provide an educational environment for junior medical, nursing and allied health staff assigned to the Department, also to supervise and complete accurate and comprehensive medical records. The Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow should participate in all aspects of the care and investigation of patients under the direct care of the Department and those persons seen in consultation by members of the Department.</p>
LOCATION:	Sydney (Darlinghurst) or as determined by the Employer

POSITION PURPOSE

The **Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow** position at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney is a truly exciting opportunity to gain experience in all aspects related to Post Acute or Long COVID, a puzzling and debilitating condition that affects millions of people. The Long COVID clinical and research service at St Vincent's hospital was established in March of 2022 and follows the guidelines newly recommended by the NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation. It was the first multi-disciplinary Long COVID service in NSW and is considered by many as providing the benchmark for clinical care for this condition in Australia.

The SVH Long COVID clinic has placed St Vincent's Hospital Sydney at the forefront of this NEW GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH challenge. Rising quickly to national prominence, the service builds on the over two years of experience in the clinical care and study of the SARS-CoV-2 virus from the initial spread of the virus in the eastern suburbs of Sydney in March 2020 to the "ADAPT" observational cohort study.

Our service provides expert, multidisciplinary specialist care (respiratory, rehabilitation, nursing, psychologist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist) to patients suffering persistent symptoms following SARS-CoV-2 infection. Clinicians participate in a weekly (virtual) multidisciplinary meeting and have the full support of the hospital

executive as well as expert clinicians from a range of specialties including heart and lung transplantation, immunology, infectious disease, neurology and psychiatry among others. The SVH Long COVID service has provided key education and training to GPs, allied health and other medical specialists to assist in the establishment of other Long COVID services around Australia and New Zealand.

The co-leads of the Long COVID service (A/Prof Byrne and Prof Faux) have collaborated with a broad range of local, national and international stakeholders including the Curran Foundation, University of New South Wales, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, the Microbiome Research Centre of Excellence, University of Technology, the Kirby Institute of Medical Research, NSW Ministry of Health, St Vincent's Clinic Foundation and Pharmaceutical industry. There are many exciting opportunities for novel and exciting research into the pulmonary and systemic effects of Long COVID as well as developing the clinical knowledge and skills required to investigate and manage this new and complex condition.

The successful candidate for this clinical/research position will;

- Gain experience in the expert management of both acute (in hospital) and Post-Acute COVID illness
- Participate in the Multidisciplinary Long COVID clinic weekly
- Commence research with plans for publication and a higher degree (Masters or PhD) under the supervision of Professors Marshall Plit, Anthony Byrne, Bruce Brew and/or Steve Faux.
- Collaborate on existing cross campus research activities relating to COVID-19.

The **Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow's** responsible for patient assessment and management; communication of assessment / management decisions to other staff involved in the patients care, communication with the patient and / family regarding the patients condition and management plans, maintenance of accurate and relevant patient documentation, coordination of diagnostic tests and consultations, arrangement of patient discharge process and liaison with GPs and other community care services to ensure the provision of optimal patient care to patients presenting to St. Vincent's Hospital.

ST VINCENT'S HEALTH AUSTRALIA: IDENTITY

Our organisational values are relevant to all positions. All employees are required to consistently demonstrate behaviours that support the Mission, Vision and Values of St Vincent's Health Australia and promote an ethical environment in accordance with the St Vincent's Health Australia Code of Conduct.

OUR MISSION

As a Catholic health and aged care service provider, our mission is to bring God's love to those in need through the healing ministry of Jesus. We are especially committed to people who are poor and vulnerable.

We draw on the talents of our people and collaborate with others who share our vision and values to continue the pioneering spirit of Mary Aikenhead and the Sisters of Charity. We are committed to providing compassionate and innovative care, enabling hope for those we serve.

OUR VISION

To lead transformation in health care inspired by the healing ministry of Jesus.

OUR VALUES

Our values, based on the Gospels, reflect the healing ministry of Jesus, and act as a point of reference for our decision making which is fundamental to our catholic identity. Our values provide direction as to the type of organisation we aspire to be and the kind of behaviours we regard as appropriate to help achieve our aspirations. Our values underpin all that we do and are demonstrated through our everyday actions, giving our mission and vision life.

Compassion: Caring for others with an openness that affirms life and healing

Justice: Acting with courage and fairness in pursuit of what is right and just

Integrity: Ensuring our actions and decisions are grounded in our values, reflecting both honesty and authenticity

Excellence: Demonstrating a passionate commitment to continuous improvement and innovation

OUR CARE

Our Care is:

- Provided in an environment underpinned by our mission and values
- Holistic and centred on the needs of each patient and resident
- High quality, safe, and continuously improved to ensure best practice
- Innovative and informed by current research using contemporary techniques and technology
- Delivered by a team of dedicated, appropriately qualified people who are supported in a continuing development of their skills and knowledge
- Committed to a respect for life in accordance with the Gospels

MISSION AND CATHOLIC IDENTITY

- Promote the mission, vision and values of St Vincent's Health Australia, the St Vincent's Health Australia Code of Conduct, and ensure these principles are effectively integrated in all areas of responsibility
- Actively contribute to the development of a positive organisational culture, aligned to the mission and values of St Vincent's Health Australia.
- Participate in information programs to ensure a clear understanding of the ministry and how the changing needs and environment of the Healthcare sector may impact on the delivery of the St Vincent's Health Australia Mission.

POSITION DUTIES

The **Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow** will have the unique opportunity to gain sub-speciality training and clinical experience in all aspects of Long COVID but particularly those relating to the respiratory system.

The successful candidate will develop research and clinical relationships with local and international experts in respiratory medicine, immunology, neurology, sleep medicine, cardiovascular disease and heart-lung transplantation (to name a few).

The successful candidate will be directly involved with the clinical care of patients referred for evaluation by the Long COVID clinical service including their triage, investigations, diagnosis, management, community follow-up and research participation.

Major challenges for the **Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow** include:

- Balancing mandated training and education requirements with service provision, within the limitations of a busy public health service.
- Maintaining a professional role and responsibility for patient care, in close liaison with supervising consultants.
- Working collaboratively with other staff in a multi-disciplinary team.
- Maximising the efficient utilisation of the physical resources of the Health Service.
- Being flexible with the work required in a range of Health Services and locations.
- Responsibility for supervision and teaching of more junior medical staff (i.e. junior medical officers) attached to the department.

Decision Making

- Close and effective liaison with consultants will allow the **Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow** to demonstrate their level of ability and understanding of patient care and enable them to expand their areas of responsibility.
- To ensure appropriate input from key decision makers and achieve consensus when possible.
- To appropriately allocate teaching time according to evidence of learning need.
- To deal with matters in a confidential manner.
- To respect the professional values of staff.

Communication

- The **Handbury Foundation Respiratory Long COVID Fellow** is a key person who works closely with all members of staff and must work as part of, and contribute to a multi-disciplinary team.
- Deal with matters of an urgent or sensitive nature.
- Must have the ability to exercise discretion, sensitivity and maintain confidentiality.
- Works co-operatively within a team environment and actively contributes to team activities including pro- actively participates in team meetings and decision making processes.

COMPLIANCE

- Ensure compliance across all relevant standards of accreditation and legislative requirements within areas of responsibility or as delegated by the CEO, St Vincent's Health Network Sydney.
- Ensure facilities operate at all times in compliance with the Catholic Health Australia Code of Ethical Standards for Catholic Health and Aged Care Services in Australia and relevant legislation.
- Ensure compliance with relevant legislation, standards and industrial instruments.
- Operate within the delegated responsibilities and authorities as set by St Vincent's Health Australia
- Ensure relevant personal qualification, registrations and memberships are maintained at the required level.
- Ensure that employees are compliant with mandatory training requirements.
- Current immunity status that complies with the Assessment, Screening & Vaccination against Specified Infectious Diseases - Policy Directive Immunisation history complies with NSW Health Policy Directive PD2022_030 as amended, is in force or introduced from time to time

INCUMBENT CAPABILITY REQUIREMENTS

The incumbent shall possess and demonstrate the following core capabilities:

CAPABILITY		DEMONSTRATED BEHAVIOUR
PERSONAL	Personal Effectiveness	Plans & Organises – Takes responsibility for accurate, timely work results
	Learning Agility	Adaptability – Identifies personal development needs and seeks information from a range of sources
OUTCOMES	Patient/ Resident Centered	Patient Focused – Strives to meet and exceed expectations, demonstrating sound judgement
	Innovation and Improvement	Identifies Issues – Contributes to improvement by reviewing strengths and weaknesses of current processes
STRATEGY	Driving Results	Delivers Results – Manages own work load to deliver results
	Organisational Acumen	Understands Interdependencies – Understands the interdependencies between departments
PEOPLE	Working With and Managing Others	Monitors Others – Takes responsibility for ensuring productive, efficient teamwork
	Collaboration	Collaborates – Works collaboratively within and outside the team

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Excellent communication and English language skills
2. MBBS or equivalent, currently registered or eligible for registration with the Medical Board of Australia
3. Demonstrated commitment to clinical research including conference presentations and journal publications
4. Completed training in Respiratory Medicine with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians or its equivalent.
5. Demonstrated ability to work independently within a supervised complex clinical environment utilising excellent clinical skills, judgment and expertise.
6. Demonstrated teamwork, time management and problem solving skills as part of a multidisciplinary team.
7. Demonstrated excellent communication skills (verbal and written) and computer skills.
8. Personal integrity and demonstrated commitment to the Mission and Values of the Mary Aikenhead Ministries.

EMPLOYEE DECLARATION

I have read this position description, I understand the position requirements and position demands checklist and agree that I can fulfill these requirements to the standards outlined. I am not aware of any reason, which might interfere with my ability to perform the inherent position requirements and position demands of this position.

_____	_____	_____
Employee Name	Employee Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Manager's Name	Department	Date