

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Allied Health Assistant (Physio)
Department:	Spinal Injury Unit (SIU)
Location:	Royal Rehab, Ryde

Employment Screening Check:	
National Criminal Record Check required:	Yes
Working with Children Check required:	Yes
Vaccination Category required:	Category A
Online driving record check required	No
NDIS worker screening check required	No

Position Purpose:
The Physiotherapy Allied Health Assistant (AHA) works closely with and under the direction of physiotherapists in SIU. Supervision may be direct or indirect according to the nature of the work delegated to the Assistant. The role includes assisting physiotherapists with transferring clients, assisting and supervising clients with exercise programs in the gym, outdoors and in the pool along with cleaning/tidying the gym, seating equipment and administrative duties.

Organisation Context:
The Spinal Injury Unit is a 20-bed inpatient service providing rehabilitation for adults with spinal cord injuries.

Organisational Relationships:	
Reports to:	Operational: Clinical Operations Manager (COM) of SIU Professional: Physiotherapy Professional Leader (PL) Supervised by Senior Physiotherapist
Responsible for:	none

Performance Review & Development Planning:
Assessment against service, professional and organisation performance indicators, and development of professional development plan will occur 3 months after commencement, and annually thereafter

Qualifications, Skills & Experience:
Essential

- Cert IV in Allied Health Assistance (or equivalent)
- Experience working in an inpatient rehabilitation setting including hydrotherapy
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Demonstration of effective teamwork
- Excellent time management and self-organisational skills
- Ability to swim confidently
- Ability to make basic alterations to wheelchairs
- Computer skills including word, excel and e-mail

Desirable

- Experience working with people with spinal cord injuries

Key Internal & External Relationships:

Internal	Clinical Operations Manager, Physiotherapy Professional Leader, Physiotherapists and Allied Health Assistants across the organisation. Multidisciplinary team members. Wheelchair and Seating services. Clients and their families
External	Equipment suppliers

Delegations/Authority

Budget	N/A
Financial Delegations	N/A

Key Responsibility Areas

Key Area of Accountability	Specific Tasks and Responsibilities
Clinical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist physiotherapists with transferring, standing and walking clients • Assist clients with individual and group exercise programs as per physiotherapists' instructions and provide feedback to treating physiotherapist • Assist with and run aquatic physiotherapy sessions following set exercise program (must be water confident) • Remove and apply splints, including checking skin integrity as directed by physiotherapist • Documentation in the medical record as per Royal Rehab policy • Completion of statistics as per Royal Rehab policy • Report changes in client's condition and incidents to physiotherapist immediately
Clinical support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure therapy area is clean and tidy in the morning, in-between and after therapy sessions • Ensure used equipment is cleaned on a daily basis and stored appropriately • Monitor equipment and stock by regular stock takes/audits • Carry out basic mechanical adjustments to wheelchair stock • Complete other administrative duties as requested by physiotherapist for example, sourcing quotes from equipment suppliers
Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in supervision sessions and annual Performance Development Plan

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to SIU, Physiotherapy and AHA projects by active participation in relevant meetings
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GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES	
Work Health and Safety	
<p>Royal Rehab is committed to providing a healthy and safe workplace for all employees, clients and visitors. To facilitate this safe and healthy workplace it is your responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all potential hazards, accidents and incidents are identified and notified Ensure your own safety and that of others 	
Equity and Zero Tolerance to Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination	
<p>Royal Rehab upholds the Federal and State government's policies to bring equality in employment for all employees to assist them to achieve their full potential. Royal Rehab will ensure merit based selection and that all facets of employment are fair, by making unlawful discrimination of persons based on gender, pregnancy, race, religion, marital status, age, sexual preferences, disability or carer responsibilities.</p> <p>As an employee of Royal Rehab, it is your responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deal with others in a fair and equitable manner free from harassment and discrimination Ensure that a working environment free from sexual or any other harassment is recognised as a basic right 	
Principles of Multiculturalism	
<p>Employees are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect and make provision for culture, language and religion of others within an Australian legal and institutional framework where English is the common language Organise access to health care interpreting services to facilitate communication with clients who are from non-English speaking backgrounds as required Abide by the principles of the Multiculturalism Act 2000 Implement the Multicultural Policies and Services Program (MPSP) within their area of responsibility 	
Code of Conduct	
<p>Royal Rehab requires a professional standard of behaviour from staff which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates respect for the right of the individual and the community Promotes and maintains public confidence and trust in the work of the Centre <p>The purpose of the Code of Conduct is to provide a framework for decisions and actions in relation to conduct in employment. The code provides assistance to both employers and employees when they are required to decide what the acceptable standards of behaviour are. It underpins commitment to a duty of care to all staff and clients receiving our services. Employees should refer to the Code of Conduct for further information</p>	
Safety & Continuous Quality Improvement	
<p>All employees of Royal Rehab are expected to be actively involved in the review, evaluation and continuous improvement of processes and services within the employee's area of responsibility and/or interest. Royal Rehab participates in a number of relevant external accreditation and certification programs which include a continuous quality improvement approach. These programs support and facilitate the effective and efficient provision of quality care and the safety of clients of Royal Rehab.</p>	

Organisational Values

Employees are expected to demonstrate a high standard of personal and professional behaviour and uphold Royal Rehab's values being:

Honesty: We conduct ourselves with truth, openness and integrity.

I will:

- Be sincere and genuine will all interactions.
- Communicate openly and encourage others to do the same.
- Be trustworthy in all that I do.

Respect: We acknowledge and appreciate people's rights, roles, views, and feelings.

I will:

- Treat people with dignity.
- Acknowledge and value a person's perspectives, connections and diversity.
- Be thoughtful and considerate.

Working Together: We work as a team to achieve shared goals.

I will:

- Share my knowledge, skills, experience and resources.
- Foster a culture of learning.
- Build positive relationships.

Innovative Thinking: We embrace a culture of creativity to find the best solutions.

I will:

- Explore better ways to continuously improve.
- Welcome and encourage new ideas.
- Actively participate in change.

Environmental Policy and Waste Minimisation

Being a good corporate citizen Royal Rehab will seek to implement changes that will ensure that its activities are undertaken in a manner consistent with best environmental health and safety practice. Employees are expected to be accountable for efficient resource utilisation, the reduction of waste, and commitment to recycling

Smoke Free Policy

Royal Rehab is committed to adopting a smoke free workplace that will preclude all staff and visitors from smoking within the Centre

Royal Rehab Policies and Procedures

It is a requirement that all Royal Rehab employees read, understand and adhere to Royal Rehab policies and procedures, paying particular attention to the following:

- Manual Handling
- Confidentiality of Patient Information
- Infection Control
- Security
- Fire Safety
- Emergency Procedures

- IT and Internet Utilisation

Job Demands Checklist

Frequency Definitions

O = Occasional	Activity exists up to 1/3 of the time when performing the task
F = Frequent	Activity exists between 1/3 and 2/3 of the time when performing the task
C = Constant	Activity exists more than 2/3 of the time when performing the task
R = Repetitive	Activity involves repetitive movement
NA	Not applicable to this role

Job Demands		Frequency				
		O	F	C	R	NA
Physical Demands	Description					
Kneeling/squatting	Tasks involve flexion/bending at the knees and ankle possible at the waist, in order to work at low levels		✓			
Leg/foot movement	Tasks involve use of leg and or foot to operate machinery		✓			
Hand/arm movement	Tasks involve use of hands/arms i.e. stacking, reaching, typing, mopping, sweeping, sorting, inspecting		✓			
Bending/twisting	Tasks involve forward or backward bending/twisting at the waist		✓			
Standing	Tasks involve standing in an upright position without moving about		✓			
Driving	Tasks involve operating any motor powered vehicle	✓				
Sitting	Tasks involve remaining in a seated position during task performance	✓				
Reaching	Tasks involve reaching overhead with arms raised above shoulder height or forward reaching with arms extended		✓			
Walking/running	Tasks involve walking or running on even surfaces		✓			
	Tasks involve walking on uneven surfaces	✓				
	Tasks involve walking up steep slopes	✓				
	Tasks involve walking down steep slopes	✓				
	Tasks involve walking whilst pushing/pulling objects		✓			
Climbing	Tasks involve climbing up or down stairs, ladders, scaffolding, platforms, trees	✓				
Working at heights	Tasks involve making use of ladders, footstools, scaffolding etc. Anything where the person stands on an object rather than the ground	✓				
Lifting/carrying	Tasks involve raising/lowering or moving objects from one level/position to another, usually holding an object within the hands		✓			
	1) Light lifting/carrying 0-9kg		✓			
	2) Moderate lifting/carrying 10-15kg	✓				
	3) Heavy lifting/carrying 16+kg				✓	
Restraining	Tasks involve restraining clients/clients, others					✓
Pushing/pulling	Tasks involve pushing/pulling objects away from or towards the body. Also includes striking or jerking		✓			
Grasping	Tasks involve gripping, holding, clasping with fingers or hands		✓			
Manual dexterity	Tasks involve fine finger movements i.e. keyboard operation, writing	✓				
Sensory Demands						
Sight	Tasks involve use of eyes as an integral part of task performance i.e. looking at screen/keyboard in computer operations	✓				
Hearing	Tasks involve working in a noisy area i.e. boiler room, workshop					✓
Smell	Tasks involve the use of the smell senses as an integral part of the task performance i.e. working with chemicals					✓

Taste	Tasks involve the use of taste as an integral part of task performance					✓
Touch	Tasks involve the use of touch as an integral part of task performance		✓			
Psychological Demands						
	Tasks involve interacting with distressed people		✓			
	Tasks involve interacting with people who as part of their lives may be aggressive, verbally or sexually uninhibited	✓				
	Tasks involve viewing/handling deceased and/or mutilated bodies					✓
Exposure to Chemicals						
Dust	Tasks involve working with dust i.e. sawdust					✓
Gases	Tasks involve working in areas affected by gas, or working directly with gases					✓
Fumes	Tasks involve working with fumes i.e. which may cause problems to health if inhaled					✓
Liquids	Tasks involve working with liquids which may cause skin irritations if contact is made e.g. dermatitis					✓
Hazardous substances	Tasks involve handling of hazardous substances including storage or transportation					✓
Biological matter	Tasks involve work with human biological matter through examination, storage, transport or disposal	✓				
Allergenic substances	Tasks involve exposure to allergenic substances					✓
Anti-biotics	Tasks involve handling, transport, administration or disposal of anti-biotics					✓
Working Environment						
Lighting	Tasks involve working in lighting that is considered inadequate in relation to task performance e.g. glare, not enough natural light					✓
Colour	Tasks involve differentiation of colour					✓
Sunlight	Exposure to sunlight	✓				
Temperature	Tasks involve working in temperature extremes e.g. working in a cool room, working outdoors, boiler room					✓
Confined spaces	Tasks involve working in confined spaces					✓
Accident Risk						
Surfaces	Tasks involve working on slippery or uneven surfaces	✓				
Housekeeping	Tasks involve working with obstacles within the area, bad housekeeping	✓				
Heights	Tasks involve working at heights					✓
Manual handling	Tasks involve manual handling			✓		
Noise	Tasks involve working in a noisy environment	✓				
Radiation	Tasks involve exposure to x-rays					✓
Electricity	Tasks involve working with electrical apparatus and currents		✓			
Machinery	Tasks involve use of machinery and equipment:					
	1) Light		✓			
	2) Heavy					✓
	3) Portable		✓			
Biological hazards	Tasks involve working with blood, blood products/body fluids	✓				
Other Issues						
Workplace access	Tasks involve difficult access or movement from site to site					✓
Personal protective equipment	Tasks involve use of Personal Protective Equipment	✓				
Safety critical issues	Tasks involve responsibility for safety of others	✓				

Document Control (Hiring Manager use only)	
Effective Date: 19/05/2025	Authorised By: Physiotherapy Professional Leader

Acknowledgement:

I accept the position description as documented above and understand that the position description will be reviewed during the performance review time. I understand that the position description may need to be amended periodically due to changes in responsibilities and organisational requirements.

Name

Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date