

# Te Whatu Ora

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

Health New Zealand

Role Title: Clinical Nurse Specialist  
Reports To: Line Manager  
Directorate:  
Location: Te Whatu Ora - Southern

### Our Vision:

- Better Health, Better Lives, Whanau Ora.

### Our Mission:

- We work in partnership with people and communities to achieve their optimum health and wellbeing.
- We seek excellence through a culture of learning, enquiry, service and caring.

### Our Values:

Kind Manaakitanga	Looking after our people: we respect and support each other. Our hospitality and kindness foster better care.
Open Pono	Being sincere: we listen, hear and communicate openly and honestly. Treat people how they would like to be treated.
Positive Whaiwhakaaro	Best action: we are thoughtful, bring a positive attitude and are always looking to do things better.
Community Whanaungatanga	As family: we are genuine, nurture and maintain relationships to promote and build on all the strengths in our community.

### Our Statutory Purpose:

- To improve, promote and protect the health of our population.
- Promote the integration of health services across primary and secondary care services.
- Seek the optimum arrangement for the most effective and efficient delivery of health services.
- Promote effective care or support for those in need of personal health or disability support services.
- Promote the inclusion and participation in society and the independence of people with disabilities.
- Reduce health disparities by improving health outcomes for Maori and other population groups
- Foster community participation in health improvement, and in planning for the provision of, and changes to the provision of services.
- Uphold the ethical and quality standards expected of us and to exhibit a sense of social and environmental responsibility

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE	
<p>The Clinical Nurse Specialist provides specialist nursing care and expertise both in direct care delivery and in support to other staff in the management of a defined patient/consumer group/area of speciality practice. The Clinical Nurse Specialist works across the organisation within a clinical specialty acting in the roles of practitioner, educator, consultant, researcher, leader/change agent and care coordinator/case manager in the pursuit of clinical excellence and improved health outcomes.</p> <p>Clinical Nurse Specialists are recognized internationally as expert practitioners, having in-depth knowledge of a speciality that results in expanding boundaries of nursing practice and the implementation of evidence-based practice and clinical research. (Austin and Luker, 2005; NACNS, 2009).</p> <p>Clinical practice is central to the Clinical Nurse Specialist role, however in order to influence and improve nursing practice it is essential the role is underpinned by the competencies as outlined in the job description below. Due to the diversity of the CNS role key accountabilities and key performance indicators will vary according to patient/consumer and service needs. Therefore, the key performance indicators will be determined by the individual service and will be based on the key accountabilities as outlined in this CNS generic job description.</p> <p>The Clinical Nurse Specialist practices both autonomously and in collaboration with the multi-disciplinary team to assess, treat and manage patient/consumer health care needs.</p>	
ORGANISATIONAL COMPETENCIES	
<b>Patient Focus</b>	Is dedicated to meeting the expectations and requirements of all patients/consumer; gets first hand patients/consumer information and uses it for improvements in products and service delivery; acts with patients/consumer in mind; establishes and maintains effective relationships with patients/customers and gains their trust and respect.
<b>Integrity and Trust</b>	Is widely trusted; is seen as a direct, truthful individual; can present the truth in an appropriate and helpful manner; keeps confidences; admits mistakes; doesn't misrepresent him/herself for personal gain.
<b>Drive For Results</b>	Can be counted on to exceed goals successfully; Is constantly and consistently one of the top performers; very bottom line oriented; steadfastly pushes self and others for results.
<b>Managing Diversity</b>	Manages all kinds and classes of people equitably; deals effectively with all races, nationalities, cultures, disabilities, ages and both sexes; hires variety and diversity without regard to class; supports equal and fair treatment and opportunity for all.
ROLE SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES	
<b>Motivating Others</b>	Creates a climate in which people are motivated and want to do their best; can motivate many team or project members; empowers others to achieve desired results; invites input from each person and shares ownership and visibility; makes each individual feel his/her work is important; is someone people like working with.
<b>Decision Quality</b>	Makes good decisions based upon a mixture of analysis, wisdom, experience, and judgement; sought out by others for advice and solutions.
<b>Informing</b>	Provides the information people need to know to do their job and to feel good about being a member of the team, unit, and/or the organisation; provides individuals with information in a timely manner to make accurate decisions.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS	
<b>Internal</b> Nurse Manager Service Manager Unit team managers Clinical Charge Nurses Clinical Leaders All Nursing and Midwifery Staff Allied Health Staff Nurse Educators Medical Staff Clinical Support Staff Infection Prevention and Control Occupational Health & Safety Maori Health Directorate FCT team MDM members	<b>External</b> Relevant associated groups, local and regional Healthcare providers Healthcare patients/consumer National Speciality groups NZNO, PSA and other relevant professional colleges of nursing and midwifery Nursing Council/Midwifery council
KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS REQUIRED	
<b>Essential Criteria</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be registered with the Nursing Council of New Zealand as a registered Nurse</li> <li>• Hold a current Nursing Council of New Zealand annual practising certificate</li> <li>• Working towards Post graduate qualifications at a minimum of a Diploma or/and a masters degree</li> <li>• Advanced learning and contemporary knowledge in area of specialist practice.</li> <li>• Holds Level 4 or Senior Nurse PDRP.</li> </ul> <b>Experience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience and credibility with the health care team as a professional resource in speciality/practice area</li> <li>• Networking effectively in area of specialty/ practice.</li> <li>• Demonstrated ability to articulate evidence based nursing advice to a Multidisciplinary Team.</li> <li>• Minimum of 3 years practice within the defined scope of clinical speciality/practice</li> </ul> <b>Skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise independent nursing judgement, apply advanced assessment skills, initiate appropriate clinical interventions, evaluate outcomes, advise others and provide sound rationale for actions in area of speciality/practice.</li> <li>• Work independently and in the interdisciplinary team, using evidence based evidence and international best practice, in area of speciality.</li> <li>• Initiate health promotion activities to encourage productive health behaviours and foster the strengths and potential of patients/consumer and staff.</li> <li>• Be a professional leader and role model, with proven ability to inspire, motivate and develop others, in area of speciality.</li> <li>• Be champions for, and promote the profession of nursing.</li> <li>• Hold a current NZ drivers licence</li> </ul> <b>Knowledge</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current issues for nursing and health in NZ and international context.</li> <li>• Current government policies, codes, guidelines, and legislation impacting on area of speciality.</li> <li>• Current nursing professional standards and codes.</li> <li>• Southern DHB current vision, goals and objectives.</li> <li>• Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and biculturalism.</li> </ul> <b>Fitness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A reasonable level of fitness is required to cope with the demanding physical requirements of the job. The following denote the key physical requirements for the position: standing, walking, bending, sitting, stairs, simple grasping, fine manipulation, operating machinery / equipment, lifting, overhead reaching, carrying,</li> </ul>	

pushing / pulling, twisting, climbing / balancing, crouching / squatting, manual handling of people, other reaching, and ability to participate in personal restraint if required.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES	DELIVERABLES	EXAMPLE MEASURES
<p><b>Leadership</b> Works collaboratively to achieve the organisation, nursing and specialty vision and values, and promotes quality patient outcomes.</p> <p>Inspires, motivates and encourages nurses to initiate and maintain best practice in their specialty area.</p>	<p>Takes the leadership role through both direct and indirect patients/consumer care delivery</p> <p>Provides senior nursing leadership for the specialty service and consultation to a broad range of hospital, community and professional groups to achieve positive outcomes for patient or population group</p> <p>Supports a culture of evaluation and the ongoing quality improvement of nursing practice</p> <p>Is actively involved in professional activities such as research, scholarship and policy development at both a local and national level</p> <p>Leads system change to improve health outcomes through evidence based practice</p> <p>Participates in clinical governance activities Works closely with team members from a wide range of clinical disciplines, helping to create a productive responsive patient focused team that is able to deliver cost effective quality care.</p> <p>Represents the specialty nursing perspective. Involvement with workforce development and succession planning for the service from a nursing perspective.</p> <p>Employs and models transformational leadership style and coaches nurses to develop own leadership skills.</p>	<p>Staff are encouraged and supported in their work as it relates to the area of speciality practice. Fosters and participates in peer review processes, case review and reflective practice.</p> <p>Team members are motivated and stimulated</p> <p>Evaluates current practice, identifies deficits/needs and introduces quality measures</p> <p>Participates actively in team meetings</p>
<p><b>Clinical Practice</b> Promotes and role models expert nursing care either directly or indirectly, especially for those with complex needs.</p>	<p>Provides expert nursing knowledge in the management of patients/consumer care within a defined area of speciality practice, working with the patient, family/whanau or other health professionals to provide timely nursing care to optimise outcomes. Exercises independent nursing judgement, applies advanced assessment skills, initiates appropriate clinical interventions, evaluates outcomes, advises others and provides sound rationale for actions in area of speciality</p>	<p>Maintains a significant presence in the clinical area as a resource, role model, mentor and advocate.</p> <p>Facilitates / initiates inter-service collaboration to improve patient care</p> <p>Provides input into the development of care co-ordination initiatives</p>

	<p>Prescribes advanced evidenced based nursing therapeutics, pharmacological/ non-pharmacological interventions, diagnostic measures, equipment, procedures, and treatments to meet the needs of patients/consumer, families and groups, in accordance with professional preparation, institutional policies and scope of practice.</p> <p>Acts as a mentor, guides and supports others in the speciality in their assessment, clinical decision making, implementation, evaluation and documentation of care.</p> <p>Facilitates/initiates inter service collaboration and promotes integrated care between secondary and primary services to improve patient care.</p> <p>Undertakes extended interventions as authorised by NCNZ</p> <p>Networks nationally and internationally to identify and implement nursing advances and changes in speciality practice.</p>	<p>Professional portfolio maintained PDRP at level 4 or Senior Nurse.</p> <p>Meets Nursing Council NZ requirements for APC</p>
<p>Works with nursing staff to continuously improve nursing practice and patient/consumer outcomes.</p>	<p>Role models expert evidenced based clinical practice, is seen as highly effective, progressive and knowledgeable</p> <p>Provides leadership, role models and guides others in nursing practice that is evidenced based and consistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi</p>	<p>Gains support for changes to nursing practice that are based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• quality improvement activity reports</li> <li>• patient/consumer feedback</li> <li>• contractual/ legislative changes</li> <li>• treatment changes current evidence based best practice</li> </ul> <p>Participates in auditing nursing quality standards, policies, procedures and guidelines and developing action plans relevant to speciality</p>
<p>Articulates the ethical, cultural and statutory requirements of practice and initiates / responds to changes from the internal and external environment.</p>	<p>Provides input into, and helps interpret requirements of new legislation /guidelines.</p> <p>Supports clinicians in identifying ethical dilemmas working through a decision making framework.</p>	<p>Attends and provides input into and feedback from relevant committees.</p> <p>Nursing specialty submissions are made in the development of relevant organisational and national policies.</p> <p>Actively manages risk.</p>

		Assess the quality of nursing practice in the clinical setting. Collaborates on any changes required.
<b>To demonstrate effective interpersonal relationship skills</b>	<p>Establishes, maintains and concludes therapeutic interpersonal relationships with patient/consumer.</p> <p>Practices nursing in a negotiated partnership with the patient/consumer and family/whanau where and when possible.</p> <p>Communicates effectively with patients/consumer and family/whanau and members of the health care team.</p> <p>Maintains privacy and confidentiality in accordance with HIP Code, DHB policies and procedures etc.</p>	<p>Communicates in an appropriate and professional manner, verbal and written.</p> <p>Privacy Act, Informed Consent and Code of Rights adhered to.</p> <p>Abides by NCNZ Code of Conduct and Professional Boundaries guidelines.</p>
<b>To participate in inter-professional health care</b>	<p>Leads nursing and interdisciplinary groups in designing and implementing innovative, cost effective patient care and evidence-based change</p> <p>Provides a primary point of contact within the speciality for patients/consumer and health professionals</p> <p>Initiates referrals to other members of the health care team in a timely manner.</p> <p>Evaluates results of interventions using recommended criteria, revises management/treatment and initiates timely referral/care with relevant services/agencies</p> <p>Is a competent consultant for interdisciplinary client base</p> <p>Contributes to research and the dissemination of findings where possible</p> <p>Contributes to the development of interdisciplinary standards of practice and evidence-based guidelines Demonstrate leadership in establishing collaborative relationships within and across departments, hospitals, primary and secondary health to promote optimal patient/consumer health and safety and continuity of care</p>	<p>Initiates timely referrals to other services in a timely and thorough manner.</p> <p>Engages in team and MDT meetings as appropriates.</p> <p>Initiate appropriate audit processes.</p> <p>Consistently participates/leads multi-disciplinary team meetings and family conferences, representing the nursing perspective of patient/consumer needs, and enacting outcomes appropriately.</p> <p>Leads in activities which monitor/audit delivery of quality patient care e.g. Certification processes, and current or retrospective nursing audits.</p> <p>Engages in submission processes.</p>
<b>Education</b>	Collaborates in the development of education programmes related to the area of speciality knowledge and skill.	Participates in the educational plan for the speciality.

Assists in providing for the educational needs of staff within the specialised area of practice.	<p>Develops professional networks Locally, Nationally and Internationally to maintain current knowledge of trends and developments in specialty area.</p> <p>Participates in collaborative educational networks to meet professional and service needs.</p> <p>Shares specialist knowledge and skills in formal and informal education activities and ensures that nurses are supported in their development of culturally safe practice</p>	<p>Participates in nursing forums where relevant to area of practice Colleagues are informed of relevant nursing professional trends and issues.</p> <p>Assists in evaluating educational programmes offered, that focus on the area of speciality practice, to ensure content is evidence based and reflective of current thinking.</p> <p>Nurses are kept informed of relevant evidence based practice and issues, including ethical issues</p>
Provides educational support for healthcare providers and patients.	<p>Disseminates specialty knowledge at both a Local and National/International level to ensure healthcare providers and consumers are informed about the service CNSs provide, hence facilitating access to the speciality support they require.</p> <p>Shares specialist knowledge and skills in formal and informal education activities and ensures that nurses are supported in their development of culturally safe practice.</p> <p>Acts as a resource person for patients/consumer and health professionals.</p> <p>Collaborates with Nurse Educators and line managers to identify staff training needs and to develop an educational plan to address these needs</p> <p>Assists in the orientation and preceptor ship of new nurses and student nurses. Provides clinical guidance and mentoring to nursing and allied health colleagues.</p>	<p>Teaching sessions are provided for health care providers e.g. general practitioners, practice nurses, staff in rural areas etc, as relevant to area of speciality.</p> <p>Education programmes are developed for patients/consumers to assist them to achieve their best clinical outcomes. This may include health promotion / wellness activities.</p> <p>Assists in the compilation of resource material for educational purposes for patients/consumer, families and healthcare professionals updating as required, to promote the sharing of current evidence-based information.</p>
Demonstrates own knowledge and skill relevant to area of speciality practice and advanced nursing practice position.	<p>Education plan is in place and pursued.</p> <p>Participates in annual performance appraisal</p>	<p>Develops and maintains a professional portfolio, utilising NZ Nursing Council's Standards for Advanced Nursing Practice.</p> <p>Maintains own clinical competence within speciality area.</p>

<b>Research</b>  Promotes quality nursing care through research-based practice	Relevant nursing and related research is read, critiqued and discussed as a means of supporting the development of quality nursing practice.  Participates in conferences relevant to area of speciality, as agreed line manager.	Patients/consumer research which challenges practice at local and national forums. Information is communicated to staff within Southern DHB, to maximise the benefit for the patient/consumer and organisation.
Role models the application of evidence based best practice principles in own practice, and assist others in research related activities.	Demonstrates ability to interpret and implement research findings relevant to area of speciality practice.  Provides research based clinical management options for complex clinical situations / issues.	There is evidence of staff participation in research related activities where appropriate and authorised.
<b>Treaty of Waitangi</b>	The Southern District Health Board is committed to its obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi. As an employee you are required to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi - Partnership, Participation and Protection.  Committed to and practices in a way that meets obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi, giving effect to the principles of Partnership, Participation and Protection and apply these principles to practice.  Understands cultural safety as embracing and encompassing a wide range of beliefs and ethnicities, gender, sexuality, religious beliefs.	Have attended cultural education training as per organisational requirements.  Familiar with NCNZ cultural safety document.  Works collaboratively with Pacific Island and Maori Health workers.  Utilises cultural resources to meet patient/whanau needs.
<b>Health and Safety</b>	Foster and support commitment to achieving the highest level of health and safety, including identification and reporting of all hazards, assistance in resolving issues that may cause harm to staff, and working safely at all times.	Demonstrates competence in emergency procedures, e.g. fire, and CPR. Completes Fire, CPR training and updates regularly as required by DHB's policies and procedures. Identifies, take appropriate action and promptly reports clinical, Occupational Safety & Health and security incidents.
<b>Quality and Performance</b>	Maintain professional and organisational quality standards.	Performance is in alignment with HR quality audit standards, organisational



	<p>Ensure delivered work is planned, delivered, and implemented consistently against quality standards.</p> <p>Continuously identify improvement opportunities to perform job in most effective manner.</p> <p>Investigate opportunities to achieve goals in a more efficient way.</p>	<p>requirements, and professional standards.</p>
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*Note: The above example measures are provided as a guide only. The precise performance measures for this position will require further discussion between the job holder and manager.*

*I have read and understand the above job description:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_