

# JOB DESCRIPTION

## TELETHON KIDS INSTITUTE



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|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Why is this Job Description being written?</b>   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Position <input type="checkbox"/> Replacement Position <input type="checkbox"/> Position re-designed <input type="checkbox"/> Position not previously described |   |
| <b>POSITION DETAILS:</b>  | <b>Position Title:</b>                              | <b>POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW - SKIN INFECTION RESEARCH</b>   |   |
| <b>RFA:</b>   | Early Environment                                   | <b>Research Group:</b>  | Group A Streptococcal (GAS) Team, Wesfarmers Centre for Vaccines and Infectious Diseases            |
| <b>Position reports to: (role)</b>  | Clinical Research Fellow                            |   |   |
| <b>Location:</b> <i>include all possible locations</i>  | 100 Roberts Road Subiaco and travel to remote sites |   |   |
| <b>POSITION PURPOSE:</b> In one or two sentences briefly summarise the overall purpose of this role, i.e. broadly, <b>what</b> this role does and <b>why</b>  |   |   |   |
| The purpose of this role is to lead the setup and manage a research project under the direction of the Clinical Research Fellow. This project is a prospective cohort study which aims to document the concurrent burden of Group A Streptococcus (GAS) skin infection and GAS pharyngitis. |   |   |   |
| <b>KEY RESPONSIBILITY AREAS</b> <i>(Please list in order of importance)</i>   |   |   |   |
| <b>Key Position Accountabilities</b><br>What are the main areas for which the position is accountable   | <b>% of Total Role</b>                              | <b>Inputs:</b><br>What are the key activities or tasks to be carried out?   | <b>Outputs:</b><br>What are the expected end results?<br><br><b>Measures:</b><br>How it is measured |

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|---|----|--|--|---|
| <b>Research</b>                         | 40 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of successful project and research grants in the subject area including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Project planning and monitoring</li> <li>○ Management of staff</li> <li>○ Development of data analysis plans</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reporting related to each outcome of the project</li> <li>• Conduct high quality research in the subject area of</li> <li>• Develop new proposals of collaborative research projects investigating</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing data and results to address project aims and hypotheses</li> <li>• Publish journal articles, research reports and conference abstracts</li> <li>• Seek and secure funding for grants and conferences</li> <li>• Forms networks and collaborations</li> <li>•</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timeliness of achieving project aims and milestones</li> <li>• Number and quality of published articles and conference presentations</li> <li>• Positive feedback from project team and collaborators</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Co-ordination and Administration</b> | 40 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input into management of expenses, budgets and finance reports</li> <li>• Generate and monitor project milestones and timelines</li> <li>• Organise the required resources to support the research (e.g. consumables, software, venues)</li> <li>• Ethics applications for research project</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate and maintain effective team organisation and communication</li> <li>• Effective collaboration with key stakeholders (steering committee)</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep projects within budget</li> <li>• Timeliness to complete administrative duties</li> <li>• Evidence of facilitating and maintaining effective staff organisation and communication</li> <li>• Timely achievement of research aims and goals</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Leadership and Team Membership</b>   | 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervise and mentor staff and research students</li> <li>• Lead and maintain a harmonious research team</li> <li>• Contribute to the research activities and strategic direction of the Skin Team</li> <li>• Actively support and contribute to other research projects and colleagues</li> <li>• Commitment to ongoing professional development</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the learning, development and growth of staff and students</li> <li>• Foster a positive and productive team environment</li> <li>• Attend relevant professional learning opportunities</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of supervision and mentoring of staff and students</li> <li>• Positive feedback from project team and collaborators</li> <li>• Harmonious and motivated work environment</li> <li>• Evidence of a commitment to professional development</li> </ul> |
| <b>Other Duties as Requested</b>        | 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform other relevant duties as required at the request of the clinical research fellow.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from line manager.</li> </ul>   |

### ESSENTIAL SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:

**Qualifications:** what are the minimum educational, technical or professional qualifications required to competently perform role

- PhD in relevant field

**Skills, Knowledge & Experience:**

- Demonstrated knowledge of Group A streptococcal infections and epidemiology
- High-level written and oral communication skills, including a track record in scientific publications and presentations
- Demonstrated ability to set goals, develop priorities and meet deadlines
- Experience in scientific paper preparation and submission such as grants and ethics applications
- Ability to work effectively as part of a broad, multidisciplinary team
- Ability to work in a team with minimal supervision and contribute to the achievement of team goals, including an ability to be adaptable and flexible working within an environment subject to change
- Capacity to supervise students

### DESIRABLE SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:

**Qualifications:** what are the minimum educational, technical or professional qualifications required to competently perform role

Undergraduate degree in relevant field

**Skills, Knowledge & Experience:**

- Experience working closely with clinicians
- Experience in Indigenous health or low resource settings
- Knowledge of impetigo, pharyngitis and acute rheumatic fever

### SCOPE:

**Financial accountability:** Does this role have accountability for a budget?

- No

**People responsibility:** Does this role have any direct reports or indirect reports (through direct reports)?

|                       |   |                         |   |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| No. of direct reports | 0 | No. of indirect reports | 0 |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|---|

**ORGANISATIONAL CHART:** (please complete using position titles or insert diagram below)

Next level of supervision

Director,  
Telethon Kids  
Institute

Immediate level of supervision

Clinical Research  
Fellow

Other roles reporting to immediate supervisor

|  |  |                                  |  |  |  |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
|  |  | Post-Doctoral<br>Research Fellow |  |  |  |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|

Direct reports (role x no.)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** is there any additional information that needs to be understood to explain this role?

Primary prevention of ARF and RHD begins with early treatment of Group A streptococcal infections. Unfortunately in remote northern Australia where the burden of ARF/RHD is the highest amongst Aboriginal children, it remains unclear whether GAS pharyngitis or GAS impetigo is the primary driver of ARF/RHD. The burden of GAS pharyngitis is anecdotally low in this population. The burden of GAS impetigo is well documented and highly prevalent. Earlier work to confirm the role of GAS impetigo in the development of ARF/RHD in the Northern Territory was supportive, but not conclusive. Since then, there has been a strong focus on skin disease control, both for the clinical benefit of a reduction in the burden of skin infections but also hypothetically for the primary prevention of ARF/RHD.

Whilst impetigo may be implicated in ARF causality, rejecting pharyngitis as a co- or primary- contributor to ARF in Aboriginal children is limiting a complete understanding of how to end RHD. It is possible that we are currently under-treating pharyngitis due to atypical presentation or a lack of recognition of the disease and this may be contributing to the high ARF disease burden. It is critical to understand the disease burden of both pharyngitis and impetigo concurrently in children. We need to develop, pilot and evaluate simple, robust tools for GAS surveillance to better inform treatment algorithms, public health priorities and ultimately GAS vaccine development.