



**PGY3+ RMCLHN Rural Generalist  
Psychiatry Advanced Skills  
Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence**

**Information Pack 2025 Clinical Year**



as of April 2024

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## About Riverland General Hospital Psychiatry Advanced Skills

### Introduction

We invite you to become part of a collegiate, committed, multidisciplinary medical team, consisting of two teams of consultants and junior doctors, as well as Allied Health, and wonderful ward staff. It is a full-year, full-time position, and fulfills the requirements for both RACGP FRACGP-RG ARST and ACRRM AST positions. The position involves providing medical inpatient and outpatient services to the General Medical Ward at Riverland General Hospital in Berri. It will involve some out of hours and on call work, supervised by a consultant physician.

The rotation is available to candidates who are postgraduate year 3 and above and enrolled in Rural Generalist Training with either ACRRM or RACGP.

### Key Dates

Expressions of Interest open:	<b>Wednesday 12 June 2024 (09:00am)</b>
Expressions of Interest close:	<b>Wednesday 3 July 2024 (close at midnight)</b>
Referee reports close:	<b>Wednesday 10 July 2024</b>
Shortlisting commences:	Wednesday 31 July 2024
Interviews:	To be advised
Round 1 results available to applicants:	Thursday 19 September 2024 1 <sup>st</sup> preference matches only)
Round 2 results available to applicants <b>(excluding general training):</b>	Thursday 26 September 2024 2 <sup>nd</sup> or higher preference matches)
Round 3 results available to applicants <b>(excluding general training):</b>	Thursday 3 October 2024 (3 <sup>rd</sup> or higher preference matches)
Round 4 onwards <b>(including general training):</b>	Thursday 10 October 2024 4 <sup>th</sup> or higher preference matches)
Start date of Term 1 Clinical Year:	Monday 3 February 2025

## Number of positions in 2025 clinical year



## Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMCLHN)

### About Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence

The Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence (RACE) articulates the ambition of the Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network (RMCLHN) to be a centre of excellence in rural health – teaching, research and innovative clinical care. It is the next exciting step in a long-term commitment to medical education in our region.

Based on a holistic understanding of health and integrating hospital and general practice training at all levels with a broad range of contemporary training in advance skills, RACE is a one-stop-shop for career advancement in general practice and rural generalism. This rural Generalist Psychiatry position is also an excellent preparation for specialty training in Psychiatry and includes opportunities to advance your career through involvement in local and international research and education networks.

We have listened to trainee doctors around the country who want to secure a single-employer contract for the duration of their training, who want to be able to choose to live in one place if they wish, and who want flexibility for part-time employment. All of this in supportive communities where you have meaningful work while you learn.

Our Academy Pathway is based in the small towns that have been the home of the Parallel Rural Community Curriculum for 25 years. New GPs and other specialists have brought an exciting culture of 'can-do together' to the region.

You will have opportunities to work with experienced health care teams, under personalized supervision of experienced rural clinicians, challenge yourself and gain valuable experience with hands-on procedural skills. You will work in network of hospitals, general practices, Aboriginal health services, community, mental health and aged care services in our region that provide high quality care close to home for our 70,000 residents over an area of 983,776 sq km.

Being a member of a smaller cohort of trainees, you will have access to significant individual support from the RACE Medical Education Unit and you will also develop close working relationships with your junior and senior medical colleagues. The working culture at our hospitals and general practices embraces teamwork and recognizes that all team members are highly valued for the skills and knowledge they are able to contribute to patient care.

### Riverland General Hospital

The Riverland General Hospital (RGH) includes a modern 38 bed complex complete with a busy emergency department, renal dialysis and operating facilities. It provides 24 hours a day, seven days a week (24/7) accident and emergency services (15,000 patients per year), acute inpatient care, maternal and neonatal services, elective surgery, acute stroke, chemotherapy, palliative and rehabilitation services.

There is a Regional Cancer Centre providing chemotherapy and an Integrated Mental Health Inpatient Unit on site with specialist oncologist and resident psychiatrist. Additional services located onsite are radiology (including MRI), SA Pathology, SA Pharmacy and Allied Health Services. Hospital services are co-located with community health services.

The Internal Medicine Department is led by two enthusiastic FRACP General Physicians. They collaborate with the region's General Practitioners to provide high quality and continuity-based care for their patients. The Department also provides a consulting service for surgical and mental health inpatients and assist in the MET calls within the hospital.

## What can you expect from the Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence

### What should employees expect from the role?

The (PGY3+) TMO is likely to do an initial detailed assessment and review of all new patients with the consultant psychiatrist, and then are actively involved in the patient's progress and management, working closely with ward nursing staff, social work staff, occupational therapist and psychologist. Rapid assessment of acute psychiatric emergencies in primary care or in the hospital emergency department for 12 patients is evidenced by a log book over a 6-month period, and case discussion with their supervising psychiatrist. The trainee is responsible for the 6-bed inpatient unit at Riverland General hospital under the supervision of the resident consultant psychiatrist.

Further experience in longitudinal adult psychiatric care includes the follow-up of recently discharged patients in the Riverland General hospital outpatient clinic. (PGY3+) TMOs will participate in telemedicine/videoconference assessments involving their patients during admission and at times post discharge. The trainee is also introduced to various psychotherapeutic techniques include supportive/cognitive and cognitive-behavioural/ and insight-oriented psychotherapies.

### Will I be based at Berri all year? Will I be expected to travel to other country locations?

The trainee is primarily based in the Riverland General Hospital Inpatient Mental Health Unit located at Berri. May occasionally be required to attend other health units within the region to provide service.

### What are the key outcomes of the program?

The aim of this program is to provide trainees with sufficient clinical experience and supervision support to meet the requirements of either the RACCP FRACGP-RG ARST or ACRRM AST in Internal Medicine.

### Are contracts renewed every 12 months? If I want to stay on for an extra year, do I have to apply again?

This position is a 12-month contracted position. Contracts can be extended if the trainee is enrolled in the RACGP or ACRRM training programs and wishes to complete their training with RACE.

### What are the hours of work and overtime?

This post requires a commitment of 76 hours per fortnight. Participation in the out of hours on-call roster is required. You will have a consultant Physician second on-call to you at all times.



**What education is provided?**

The unit has a strong learning focus with weekly small group learning tutorials as well as more formal training through RACE including:

- > Advanced life support training.
- > Regular mental health tutorials.
- > Grand Rounds.
- > Regular log book and learning needs review.

**How will supervision be provided? Will this vary from rotation to rotation?**

Consultant Psychiatrist supervision

Overall term supervision is provided by the Director of the Department.

**What other supports is provided?**

The unit has the required Nursing and Allied Health Services. The Nursing, Social Work, Psychology and Occupational Therapy supports are either via ward-based staff and community teams.

The Medical Education Unit has an open-door policy where trainees are welcomed to discuss any issues or concerns. The DCT, EDMS and MEO also arrange confidential beginning and end of year appraisals as a formal time for trainees to ask for advice/support, highlight any concerns, discuss career pathways, and provide feedback about the training program.

**Will the TMO supervise interns/others in their role?**

Supervision is not a requirement of this position.

This position works directly with the Consultant and Nursing/Allied Health staff.

**What pathways are there after the year is completed?**

Trainees are encouraged to see this post as a step in their pathway to providing rural generalist services to a community in rural South Australia. This position articulates with:

- > General Practice and Rural Generalist training.
- > Other advanced skills training posts in Anaesthetics, Emergency Medicine, Internal Medicine and Obstetrics.

**Rotations at RMCLHN**

The post is based in the Mental Health Inpatient Unit, General Ward and Community Mental Health unit at Riverland General Hospital for the full calendar year. It is not expected that other rotations will be allocated during this period.

## Selection into RMCLHN Rural Generalist Psychiatry Advanced Skills

### About the selection panel

The selection panel for this program will include, but not limited to, a combination of the following;

- > Executive Director of Medical Services.
- > Director of Clinical Training.
- > Consultant Psychiatrist.
- > GP Consultant.
- > Medical Education Officer.

### Eligibility

Candidates currently PGY2 and above who are enrolled in Rural Generalist Training with either ACRRM or RACGP are eligible to apply for this role. Candidates must have Australian Working Rights to be eligible to apply.

Candidates must be available to work for a 12-month contract commencing on 3 February 2025

### Skills and knowledge required for the role

#### Educational / Vocational Qualifications:

- > Appropriate basic medical degree and medical qualifications recognized in Australia.
- > Have general medical registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra).
- > Enrolment in either RACGP or ACRRM Training Program.

#### RMCLHN Values

- > Respectful
- > Motivated
- > Compassionate
- > Consumer Focused
- > Accountable
- > Resourceful
- > Excellence
- > Service

#### Personal Abilities / Aptitudes / Skills:

- > Interest in experiencing rural learning environment.
- > High likelihood of meeting the Mental Health AST requirements of ACRRM/RACGP in a one-year placement.
- > Ability to work in a multi-disciplinary team environment.
- > Ability to work with patients, families in crisis and to liaise effectively with other agencies.

- > Ability to communicate effectively with staff at all levels both verbally and in writing.
- > An empathy/understanding of people suffering from a mental illness.
- > Ability to continually update and extend psychiatric knowledge and skills.
- > Demonstrated high level of skill in negotiation and communication.
- > Proven skill in problem solving and decision making at both the clinical and the individual level.
- > Proven ability to react positively to change.
- > Professional integrity.
- > Ability to be adaptable to change.

#### **Experience:**

- > Demonstrate relevant experience including or similar to RMO in a term of general medicine.
- > At least two years of postgraduate clinical practice.
- > Have a commitment to rural / remote medical practice, including experience of at least one term in rural practice.

#### **Knowledge:**

- > Demonstrated understanding of cultural safety and the rights and responsibilities of patients and their families.
- > Knowledge and awareness of quality improvement activities and clinical risk reduction and patient safety techniques.
- > Good theoretical knowledge of medicine as it relates to women's health.
- > An understanding the legislative requirements of AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management Standard, Equal Employment Opportunity and Occupational Health, Safety and welfare legislation.
- > Knowledge and understanding of other relevant legislation, industrial agreements, standards, codes, ethics and competency standards.

## **Selection Process**

### **Our approach to selection**

At a minimum the selection process will involve assessing your:

- > Curriculum Vitae.
- > Referee reports.
- > Appropriate completion and submission of required documentation.
- > An interview.

All applications will be scored/ranked for shortlisting. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a face to face or video conference interview, and in some circumstances this can be conducted via teleconference.

SA Health will match the highest ranked candidates to these positions.



## Your Expression of Interest

Your Expression of Interest must include:

- > An Expression of Interest addressing the selection criteria (see below).
- > Current Curriculum Vitae.
- > Contact details for two referees in Australia who you have worked with in a clinical setting.

## Curriculum Vitae

In your Curriculum Vitae must include:

- > Contact details including email and mobile phone number.
- > Qualifications and academic achievements.
- > Clinical achievements:
  - o All jobs / clinical placement since completing medical school.
  - o Any rural clinical experiences since commencing medical school.
- > Personal development.
- > Activities which demonstrate your interest in and commitment to rural practice.

## Cover letter

Not required

## Other Expression of Interest questions

1. *In no more than 300 words describe why training in rural general psychiatry interests you?*
2. *What experience have you had of either living and/or working in a rural area or what personal strengths do you have which will assist you to live and work within a rural community?*
3. *In no more than 250 words, please provide an example where you have demonstrated your commitment to providing a quality service to patients and their families. Please outline the situation, what actions you took, your role, who else you involved and the outcomes.*

## Interview

Applicants who are shortlisted for an interview will be notified by mobile phone and/or email.

Interviews will be face to face or via video conference (where possible), and in some circumstances via teleconference (phone). Further details will be provided to shortlisted candidates.

The intention of the interview is to ensure the applicant selected is the best fit for the role, including their ability to succeed in attaining a rural generalist AST certification in Internal Medicine while in this post. The interview is likely to include invitation to describe previous experiences and some scenario-based questions with the aim to evaluate candidates against the skills and knowledge required for the role.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **I am unsure about moving to the country. Can I visit to look at the facilities prior to finalising my preferences?**

Yes, we welcome you to come and meet us and see the region for yourself.

### **Will accommodation be provided?**

Accommodation support is available through the RMCLHN.

### **Will I be supported with relocation expenses?**

We appreciate that moving house can put a strain on your finances, particularly prior to starting your new job. Please contact us to discuss what relocation support may be available and what documentation you will need to supply.

### **Will I need my own transport?**

Berri is a rural town with the population of approximately 5,000 people. Some sort of private transport is required as the Riverland region is spread over quite a large area. Most locations are only 10-15 minutes away by car, 20-25 minutes by bicycle. There is a limited public transport system (bus) which runs primarily between 9am and 5pm to major towns.

### **Do I need to arrange for a carpark?**

The good news is that parking in all of Berri is currently free of charge. Some areas require permits and time limits, but generally it is easy to park in or around the Hospital. There is a secure staff car park on the Hospital site.

### **Can I get decent coffee and food in Berri?**

Yes, and yes. Berri offers a range of dining options featuring regional produce inspired by freshness and seasonality. Restaurants, Cafes', and hotels provide something for everyone. There is a wide range of cuisines on offer and real baristas.

### **What is there to do in Berri?**

The benefits of living on the Murray River is it will provide you with the ultimate rural Australian experience, with meandering networks of waterways, endless horizons of orange earth and national parks makes it the ideal place to hire a kayak.

Berri is not only a riverside town, but it is surrounded by 3000 hectares of vineyards, and it is only natural that Berri has a lot of wine to offer. Visit a number of the small boutique wineries around the region to have a taste of the local crisp whites and Moorish reds or dine at one of the cosy local pubs, perhaps one of the hearty restaurants or relax and enjoy the perfect cappuccino at a little riverbank cafe.

You will fall in love with Berri and surrounding communities.

## Contacts

### Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network Riverland Academy of Clinical Excellence

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Director Clinical Training	Name: Dr Hamish Eske Email: <a href="mailto:Hamish.Eske@sa.gov.au">Hamish.Eske@sa.gov.au</a>
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### Role Description

View Role Description [here](#)

### Any further questions?

**SA Health Salaried Medical Officers Enterprise Agreement 2022** [here](#)

**Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) registration standards** [here](#)

For more information

[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au)

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