

Position Description

Position Title	Elective Surgery Liaison Nurse
Position Number	30100069
Division	Clinical Operations
Department	Surgical Services
Enterprise Agreement	Nurses And Midwives (Victorian Public Health Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2024-2028
Classification Description	Registered Nurse Grade 3B
Classification Code	YU11
Reports to	Nurse Unit Manager, Patient Services
Management Level	Non Management
Staff Capability Statement	Please click here for a link to staff capabilities statement

Bendigo Health

With more than 5,000 staff and volunteers and covering an area a quarter of the size of Victoria, Bendigo Health, is an expanding regional health service offering the advantages of city life combined with the beauty and freedom that comes from living in a regional area.

Bendigo Health is a 700 bed service that treats more than 45,000 inpatients, triages more than 65,000 emergency attendees and welcomes more than 1,600 new born babies in a year. In addition more than 15,000 operations are performed in our operating theatres and more than 100,000 occasions of services are provided in our clinics to outpatients.

The organisation provides services in emergency, maternity, women's health, medical imaging, pathology, rehabilitation, community services, residential aged care, psychiatric care, community dental, hospice/palliative care, cardiology, cancer services and renal dialysis to the people of the Loddon Mallee region.

With our main campus based in Bendigo, our services extend throughout the Loddon Mallee with sites in areas such as Mildura, Echuca, Swan Hill, Kyneton and Castlemaine.

Demand on services is increasing rapidly with Bendigo being one of Victoria's fastest growing regional cities.

Our Vision

Excellent Care. Every Person. Every Time.

Our Values

CARING – We care for our community

PASSIONATE – We are passionate about doing our best

TRUSTWORTHY - We are open, honest and respectful

All staff at Bendigo Health should have, or aspire to the personal qualities, knowledge and skills as described in the Bendigo Health Staff Capabilities Statement. Refer to link at top of page.

The Clinical Operations Division

The Clinical Operations Division encompasses acute and mental health services. We provide a wide range of general medical, surgical and speciality services including; Oncology, Cardiology, Renal, Emergency, Women's and Children's, Critical Care, Specialist Clinics and Mental Health Services.

Within a state-of-the-art hospital, the team provides high-quality services using the latest technologies. Our eleven operating theatres (including two endoscopy rooms), critical care, emergency and women's wards all have access to critical services lifts that link to the helipad allowing rapid transfer of patients both in and out of the health service.

The Mental Health Service provides psychiatric care and treatment across a large catchment area in Victoria stretching from Swan Hill in the north of the state to Gisborne in the south. Family sensitive practice is central to our models of mental health care and best practice ensures the identification, inclusion and support of families, carers and children.

The Patient Services Team

The team is part of Bendigo Health's Surgical Services Department.

The team supports nursing and medical staff by providing daily clerical support for the management of patients coming into Bendigo Health for Elective Surgery. The team provides support and information to patients being admitted who, in many cases are concerned and unsure of hospital environments and may have coinciding other appointments relating to this scheduled surgery.

Patient Services comprises of the following areas:

Bookings - for all elective admission bookings, bed allocation for elective and emergency patients, theatre session allocations and the public waiting list

Admissions - to process the admission documentation of all elective and non-elective patients not requiring treatment in the Emergency Department

Pre-operative clinic - responsible for the pre-operative assessment of public patients who fit within a pre-determined criteria and includes pre-anaesthetic clinic.

The Position

All staff at Bendigo Health should have, or aspire to the personal qualities, knowledge and skills as described in the Bendigo Health Staff Capabilities Statement. Refer to link at top of page.

According to the appropriate guidelines including the Elective Surgery Access Policy the Elective Surgery Liaison Nurse will assume responsibility for planning and co-ordination of the patient to facilitate timely access for patients requiring elective procedures.

The Elective Surgery Liaison Nurse is an integral part of the health care service team, providing assessment, management and education of patients pre-operatively. The Elective Surgery Liaison Nurse should have, or aspire to, the personal qualities, knowledge and skills as described in the Bendigo Health Staff Capabilities Statement. The Elective Surgery Liaison Nurse works closely with the surgical speciality team, Pre-Admission Liaison Nurse, Patient Services Nurse Unit manager and other key stakeholders.

- To encourage and support a philosophy of care, which is patient focused.
- Responsibility is assumed for planning and coordination of the patient by liaising with the multi-disciplinary team.
- Undertake the full range of clerical activities associated with management of patients on the elective surgery waiting List.
- Compilation of theatre lists with attention to session times, avoiding overruns, and category times and treat in turn policies.
- Liaise with Consultants, anaesthetists, theatre staff in management of lists.
- Clinical knowledge and skills are maintained so that expert guidance and support is provided to patients
- Undertake to develop and maintain positive working relationships with other wards/departments throughout Bendigo Health
- To be a conduit through which information is disseminated to staff therefore enhancing teamwork
- Support management of elective surgery waiting lists in other specialities and preadmission clinic as required

Responsibilities and Accountabilities

Key Responsibilities

Employees are required to carry out lawful directions outlined above or delegated to them. The work to be performed is set out in this position description and, where relevant, any professional standards and codes of conduct and ethics issued by the relevant professional association.

- Responsibility is assumed for planning and coordination of the patient for elective surgery
- Ensure bookings promote effective and efficient time utilisation in theatre
- Adequate and appropriate liaison with the multi-disciplinary team is maintained to facilitate timely access for patients requiring elective surgery
- Managing appointments ensuring that patients are notified in a timely manner and that the complexity of patients are allocated a date for surgery according to need
- Ensure patients are treated within Category times as set down by the Elective Surgery Access Guidelines
- Provide regular relevant waiting list reports

- Liaise with Consultants, anaesthetists, theatre staff to develop a consultative relationship to improve processes and services in management of patients.
- Forecast admissions and plan for theatre activity by monitoring leave and replacement to maintain activity
- Assume responsibility for the quality of service provided to patients awaiting elective orthopaedic procedures
- Support management of elective surgery waiting lists in other specialities and preadmission clinic as required

Generic Responsibilities

Code of Conduct - The Victorian Government's Code of Conduct is binding on all Bendigo Health staff. Contravention of a provision in the code may constitute misconduct and/ or regarded as a breach of the employee's employment agreement and will be dealt with under the organisations Counselling and Disciplinary Action Policy.

Compliance with policies and procedures - All Bendigo Health's policies and procedures are set out in its clinical and managerial policy manuals located on the intranet under PROMPT and in hard copy. All staff must ensure they comply with policies, procedures and standard ways of work practices when carrying out their work. Any breach in compliance may result in disciplinary action.

Occupational Health and Safety - Every staff member has the responsibility to take reasonable care of their own health and safety and the safety of others, to cooperate with Bendigo Health's OH&S policies and to participate in appropriate safety education and evaluation activities. All staff are expected to participate in reporting any health, safety and wellbeing issues. Any breach in compliance may result in disciplinary action.

Infection Control - Every staff member has the responsibility to minimise incidents of infection/ cross infection of residents, staff, visitors and the general public. All staff must adhere to the policies and procedures as set out in Bendigo Health's infection control manuals. Any breach in compliance may result in disciplinary action.

Confidentiality - All information concerning Bendigo Health, its patients, clients, residents and staff should remain strictly confidential. Any unauthorised disclosure of such information may result in disciplinary action.

Quality Improvement - Bendigo Health is dedicated to improving the quality and safety of health services by providing care within the following domains of quality: Consumer Participation, Clinical Effectiveness, Effective Workforce and Risk Management. As a result, we apply the concept of the quality cycle for all our quality activities, initiatives and projects thereby ensuring the best possible care and treatment results are achieved. The underlying principle of the cycle is that an activity is not complete until evaluation shows that it has been effective and reached the desired outcome. As a Bendigo Health employee you have a responsibility to participate in and commit to ongoing quality improvement activities using the framework of the NSQHSS (National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards).

Diversity – Each person has a right to high-quality health care and opportunities regardless of diversity factors, which might include aspects such as cultural, ethnic, linguistic, religious background, gender, sexual orientation, age and socio-economic status. Every staff member has a responsibility to recognise and respect diversity. Inclusiveness improves our service to our community and promotes engagement amongst staff.

Employees are required to carry out lawful directions outlined above or delegated to them. The work to be performed is set out in this position description and, where relevant, any professional standards and codes of conduct and ethics issued by the relevant professional association.

Key Selection Criteria

Essential

1. Registered Nurse with a minimum of 3 years' experience
2. Demonstrated clinical knowledge and skills relevant to patients being booked for elective surgery
3. Good understanding of the Victorian Public Health System; in particular the National Elective Surgery Access Policy
4. Demonstrated superior interpersonal and negotiation skills with a strong customer focus.
5. Ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team, as well as independently.
6. Demonstrated ability to learn new skills and adapt quickly to a fast paced environment.
7. Demonstrated ability to further own professional development.

Desirable

8. Demonstrated ability to participate in audit and in the audit feedback cycle.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of the organisations Health Information Management system at the level required to fulfil the role.

Mandatory Requirements

National Police Record Check A current and satisfactory National Police Record Check must be completed by all new staff prior to commencement at Bendigo Health.

Immunisation As a health provider dedicated to providing quality patient care, we all need to be aware of the critical importance of infection control. Each staff member has a responsibility to comply with Bendigo Health's Staff Immunisation Policy and various infection control policy and procedures. All staff are required to provide evidence of vaccinations prior to commencement at Bendigo Health

Registration with Professional Regulatory Body or relevant Professional Association For example, AHPRA, AHRI, RACS etc. The work to be performed is set out in this position description and, where relevant, any professional standards and codes of conduct and ethics issued by the relevant professional association.

All Bendigo Health sites, workplaces and vehicles are smoke free.

This position description is intended to describe the general nature and level of work that is to be performed by the person appointed to the role. It is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required. Any elements of this document may be changed at Bendigo Health's discretion and activities may be added, removed or amended at any time.