

Position Title: **Nurse Practitioner – Multiple Sclerosis (MS NP)**

Campus: **Grampians Health (Ballarat)**

Directorate: Hospitals

Reporting to:

Direct: Director General and Specialty Medicine, Continuing Care

Indirect: MS CNC / MS Support Nurses (mentorship role)

Appointment Terms/Conditions:

Classification and Code: Nurse Practitioner

Award Coverage: Nurses & Midwives (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2024-2028

Time Fraction (hrs/wk): As per employment contract

ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION

Grampians Health was established on 1 November 2021, bringing together Edenhope and District Memorial Hospital, Stawell Regional Health, Wimmera Health Care Group and Ballarat Health Services as one united health service. More information can be found at www.grampianshealth.org.au

Our purpose is to provide high quality and accessible health care services in each of the communities we serve. We currently service the healthcare needs of more than 250,000 Victorians and we employ more than 6,300 people across 21 campuses and sites with an annual operating revenue of over \$700m.

Collaboration	Compassion	Accountability	Respect	Innovation
<i>We are stronger together.</i>	<i>We show that we care.</i>	<i>We do what we say and say what we do.</i>	<i>We appreciate and value all people.</i>	<i>We adapt and innovate to achieve best outcomes.</i>
Recognising and utilising strengths to share knowledge, solve problems, build relationships and deliver the best outcomes possible.	All people deserve to be treated with compassion, kindness and empathy.	Openness, honesty and transparency support us to be courageous, take responsibility for our actions and follow through on our commitments	Our actions and words reflect our commitment to a safe and fair health service for all.	Every day, we apply expertise and integrity to make responsible choices, always striving for continuous improvement.

POSITION PURPOSE

The MS Nurse Practitioner (NP) provides advanced, autonomous, patient-centred care to people living with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) across the Grampians region.

The role combines direct clinical service delivery, multidisciplinary leadership, patient advocacy, workforce development, supporting safe, timely, and equitable access to MS care.

The NP delivers independent assessment, diagnosis, prescribing, monitoring and management of disease-modifying therapies and symptom management. They serve as a key contact for patients and carers, coordinate with neurology consultants, and ensure integrated care across outpatient clinics, infusion services, and community supports.

This position also supports research and innovation in MS nursing practice, embedding evaluation and contributing to clinical trials, in collaboration with Grampians Health Research Office and Deakin Rural Health.

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

1. Clinical Care

- Provide advanced, autonomous clinical care for people with MS, including assessment, prescribing, ordering/interpreting diagnostics, and managing relapses and treatment complications.
- Lead NP-led MS clinics and provide rapid triage and escalation pathways.
- Deliver evidence-based management of MS symptoms (e.g., fatigue, cognition, continence, mobility, spasticity).
- Oversee safe delivery and monitoring of disease-modifying therapies (DMTs) in collaboration with infusion services.
- Utilise telehealth and outreach to improve regional access, reducing travel burden for patients across the Grampians catchment (>250,000 population).

2. Patient Support and Education

- Provide patients and carers with information, counselling, and shared decision-making support across the MS trajectory.
- Facilitate access to supportive care, including allied health, NDIS, community resources, and peer networks.
- Promote patient empowerment, self-management, and quality of life.

3. Multidisciplinary Leadership & Coordination

- Lead structured Multidisciplinary Case Conferences (MDCCs) with neurologists and CNCs, ensuring safe care planning and escalation protocols.
- Mentor MS CNCs and Support Nurses, building capacity towards NP training pathways (succession planning).
- Provide clinical leadership, education, and consultation to infusion staff and broader hospital teams.

4. Research, Evaluation, and Service Innovation

- Contribute to research and clinical trials, leveraging dual nursing roles across MS care, infusion services, and research.
- Support evaluation through collection of patient experience, safety, and workforce outcomes.
- Work with Grampians Health Research Office to ensure rigour in data collection and dissemination.
- Contribute to publications, conference presentations, and translation of findings into practice.

5. Professional Practice

- Maintain NP endorsement and practice in line with NMBA standards.
- Ensure ongoing professional development and alignment with international MS NP frameworks (e.g., European MS Nurse PRO).
- Engage in quality improvement, risk management, and innovation activities.
- Demonstrate leadership in upholding Grampians Health values: Collaboration, Compassion, Accountability, Respect, Innovation.

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Essential:

- AHPRA registration as a Registered Nurse with endorsement as Nurse Practitioner.
- Demonstrated advanced practice experience in MS or neuroimmunology nursing, including DMT prescribing and monitoring.
- Expertise in MS symptom management, patient education, and multidisciplinary coordination.
- Demonstrated ability to lead, mentor, and build advanced nursing capacity.
- Experience in clinical research, service evaluation, or quality improvement.
- High-level communication, collaboration, and negotiation skills.

Desirable:

- Postgraduate qualifications in MS/Neuroscience Nursing.
- Membership of professional MS organisations (e.g., MS Nurses Australasia, International Organisation of MS Nurses).
- Experience in telehealth and regional/rural service delivery models.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND QUALITY RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsibilities and Accountabilities

All Grampians Health employees share responsibility for occupational health and safety, (OH&S) with specific responsibilities and accountabilities allocated to positions within the organisational structure.

Employees also have a responsibility to the National Safety and Quality Standards (NSQHS) in ensuring the effective and safe delivery of healthcare services.

Any employee who fails to meet his/her obligations concerning health and safety may, depending on the circumstances, face disciplinary action up to, and including, dismissal.

Employees

Employees have a responsibility to comply with all relevant Grampians Health OH&S management system Policies, Procedures and programs. This includes the Grampians Health Injury Management Program.

Employees have a responsibility to take all reasonable care to prevent incident or injury to themselves or to others in the workplace. Employees are expected to learn and follow approved standards and Procedures that apply to their activities and check with their Manager when they have any doubts concerning potential hazards.

Employees have a responsibility for:

- Looking after their own health and safety and those of others in the workplace;
- Follow safe work practices and use personal protective equipment as required;
- Participate in OH&S consultation and OH&S training initiatives;
- Report any accidents, incidents, injuries "near misses", safety hazards and dangerous occurrences, assist with any investigations and the identification of corrective actions;
- Cooperate with managers and supervisors so that they can meet their OH&S responsibilities;
- Don't wilfully interfere with or misuse anything provided in the interest of health and safety or wilfully put anyone at risk;
- Performing only those tasks for which they have received appropriate training and instruction;
- Ensuring that they understand and comply with those responsibilities which apply to them while performing their duties at the workplace;
- Participate in emergency evacuation exercises.

Employees (Non-Clinical – NSQHS)

The role of non-clinical employees is to ensure safe and effective delivery of healthcare services by:

- Actively participating in organisational processes including development and implementation of safety systems, improvement initiatives and training

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

- Appointment is subject to a satisfactory Staff Immunisation clearance and a satisfactory current Police Record Check.
- Statements included in this Position Description are intended to reflect in general the duties and responsibilities of this position and are not to be interpreted as being all inclusive.
- Management may alter this Position Description if and when the need arises. Any such changes will be made in consultation with the affected employee(s).
- An interim performance development and review discussion will occur with your Manager three months from your commencement date and annually thereafter. Your performance review is intended to be a positive discussion, outlining the key roles and responsibilities outlined in this Position Description. The performance review discussion provides an opportunity to clarify your role, revise key performance activities and identify any objectives or goals for the year ahead.

HOW TO APPLY

Your application should include:

- Clearly state the **Job No.** specified on the advertisement for this position.
- A statement addressing each “**Key Selection Criteria**” clearly demonstrating your ability to meet the objectives of the role. **Note:** Read the Position Description carefully so you have a good understanding of what is required and remember to address what skills, knowledge and attributes you have.
- General resume
- Copies of any formal qualifications. **Note:** If emailing your application note that hard copies of your qualifications will need to be produced at interview.
- Two (2) professional referees