Application Pack

Statewide Cancer Clinical Network

Clinical Lead

SA Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health
June 2019
Organisational Context

A key priority of the State Government is to rebalance the health system in South Australia in a way that represents the needs of the community, delivers the highest standards of safe and quality care and is economically viable for the future.

The Minister for Health and Wellbeing is committed to working in partnership with clinicians, consumers and stakeholders to achieve this priority.

South Australian Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health

The Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health (CEIH) is being established in 2019, led by an appointed Commissioner. It will provide leadership and advice on clinical best practice with a focus on maximising health outcomes for patients, improving care and safety, monitoring performance, championing evidence-based practice and clinical innovation, and supporting clinical collaboration. The Commission will bring together expertise from clinicians, consumers, health partners and other relevant stakeholders to maximise health outcomes for patients.

The Commission will have partnerships with clinicians as a core function. It is anticipated that clinicians will govern the Commission, be staff members in the Commission, will participate in advisory structures established to guide the Commission in its work and that committees will be established (such as clinical networks) to focus on specific clinical priorities. Re-establishing Statewide Clinical Networks is a core component of the Minister’s commitment to clinician engagement. The CEIH reports to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

Statewide Clinical Networks

Statewide Clinical Networks are groups of health professionals, health service organisations, consumers and carers who work collaboratively with the goal of high quality care. Statewide Clinical Networks operate across the continuum of care, across private and public sectors and across all Local Health Networks — both country and metropolitan. The word ‘statewide’ is intended to describe the scope of the Clinical Networks’ focus as being across the entire South Australian health system geographically and cross sectorally.

The Statewide Clinical Networks will each be supported by a small Steering Committee of key personnel able to influence outcomes and implement changes to services as required with leadership provided by a Statewide Clinical Network Lead. All staff involved in the particular service area of the designated Network are considered members of that Statewide Clinical Network, including those outside SA Health.

The Statewide Clinical Networks will be formed under the Commission and will have a Clinical Lead who will report to the Commissioner.

Statewide Clinical Leads

The Statewide Clinical Lead can be from the public or private sectors, from any clinical profession, and can be at any stage of their career (they do not need to be in a management position). They will:

> Be a leader in their field, with an excellent clinical standing in their area of expertise, and be passionate about improving outcomes of care and consumer experience of care.
> Be someone who communicates a vision for high quality health care that generates enthusiasm and commitment among their colleagues.
> Have a vision of excellence in healthcare at the clinician-consumer interface through to the whole of system level.
> Draw on their experience and knowledge to develop complex strategies to build buy-in and support from key stakeholders.
The Clinical Lead will provide clinical leadership and advice to the CEIH on matters impacting quality and safety in their area of practice. The clinical lead may be from any professional group, including Allied and Scientific Health, Nursing and or Midwifery and Medical.

The Network Clinical Leads collectively will form the Statewide Clinical Network Executive to discuss work in their respective networks, consider system wide issues and performance trends and agree priorities across the whole of system for clinical service improvements.

The Clinical Lead will work collaboratively with the Commission on the development and implementation of the clinical improvement projects.

Proposed Statewide Clinical Network Governance Chart - 8 April 2019

Relevant publications

> Statewide Clinical Networks: A framework for delivering best value health care through excellence and innovation
> SA Health Strategic Plan
Why apply?

As a Statewide Clinical Lead you will:

> Have a unique opportunity to provide leadership and to share innovations and improvements across the South Australian health care system including championing and facilitating implementation of the Enterprise-wide Chemotherapy Prescribing System and proton Beam Therapy.

> Provide clinical leadership and advice to CEIH and SA Health on matters impacting quality and safety in cancer care.

> Represent and advocate on behalf of the clinical network with other networks, CEIH, the Department for Health and Wellbeing and to the broader health service community.

> Work with consumers and their carers, the CEIH, other Clinical Networks and other relevant agencies to improve the health of South Australians.

What do I need to know?

> The Statewide Cancer Clinical Network Clinical Lead will be selected by a panel of clinicians and key stakeholders following an expression of interest and merit based selection process.

> Final appointment will be confirmed by the Chief Executive, Department for Health and Wellbeing and the Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

> The application process will be advertised and promoted online.

> Applications close **29 July 2019**.

> Please read the position description available online and the below information.

How to apply

Submit your application via email (contacts below). Include ‘Statewide Clinical Lead Application’ in the subject line.

Include the following:

> a one-page cover letter

> a current curriculum vitae, maximum of four pages

> a confirmation letter from your employer (template included below) which includes their endorsement and approval for secondment and nominated release time (e.g. <0.1/0.2 FTE for two years).

More information

For any enquiries, or to submit your application, please use the relevant contact below:

Professor Paddy Phillips  
Department for Health and Wellbeing  
GPO Box 287  
Rundle Mall  
Adelaide, SA, 5000  
paddy.phillips@sa.gov.au

Phone: 8226 2578
Frequently asked questions

Won't the Statewide Cancer Clinical Network duplicate some of the work being done by the South Australian Cancers Services (SACS)?

LHN cancer clinicians met with the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and the Department for Health and Wellbeing in late 2018 to discuss the way forward for cancer services in SA and define the role of SACS. Further clinician consultation resulted in the decision to remodel and realign SACS to the new SA Health structure.

SACS will transition to a Statewide Cancer Clinical Network and report to the CEIH. Some of the functions currently in SACS that will transfer to the Clinical Network are:

- SA Systemic Cancer Therapy Standards
- Cancer Data Dashboard – Quality, Information and Performance (QIP) HUB
- Optimal Cancer Care Pathways
- SA Survivorship Framework
- Statewide Sarcoma Work
- SA Cancer Plan
- GP Oncologist Model

Other functions within SACS will be realigned and transitioned into the CEIH structure but not under the Clinical Networks.

The Governance of cancer services in SA will be through existing LHN reporting lines.

The Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health is currently being established. How will Clinical Networks be supported until then?

The Department for Health and Wellbeing’s new structure was formalised on 6 May 2019. As part of this, staff who currently work to support clinical service improvement and clinical partnerships have been identified to transfer into being employees of the Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health. These existing staff will be able to support the establishment of the first cohort clinical networks and over time additional staff will be employed in the Commission and additional clinical networks will be formed.

The Commission has been established under section 27 of the Public Sector Act, as an ‘attached office’ of Department for Health and Wellbeing (DHW). This is done by proclamation made by the Governor.

An attached office is an ‘administrative unit’ (and therefore a public sector agency in its own right) for the purposes of the Public Sector Act. As an administrative unit, the attached office requires its own Chief Executive or in this case of the CEIH the Commissioner, engaged by the Premier and may employ persons as public sector employees under the Public Sector Act.
What is CEIH relationship with the Department for Health and Wellbeing (DHW)?
As an ‘attached office’ the CEIH will be accountable to the Premier and Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

This means that it will be subject to the direction and control of the Premier and Minister for Health and Wellbeing (who will set the expectations/functions/performance objectives).

How many Statewide Clinical Networks are being formed by the CEIH?
Initially three Statewide Clinical Networks are being established. These are:

> Statewide Cardiac Clinical Network
> Statewide Palliative Care Clinical Network
> Statewide Urgent Care Clinical Network

The Statewide Cancer Clinical Network will be the fourth Statewide Clinical Network to be established. Other Clinical Networks will be established in the near future as either long term (five years) or medium term (two to three years) networks depending on the amount and complexity of the work that needs to be done and informed by criteria.

Can there be more than one clinical lead?
The clinical lead role can be shared between up to two appointees if this is considered appropriate.

How is the clinical lead’s time used?
The clinical lead will work closely with the clinical network steering committee, as well as with project staff and executive from the CEIH to plan, develop and deliver work to achieve the network’s improvement goals. The Statewide Clinical Leads will also meet as a collective group (Statewide Clinical Network Executive) to discuss work in their respective Networks, consider system wide issues and performance trends and agree priorities across the whole system for clinical service improvement.

Is the clinical lead automatically the chair of the Statewide Clinical Network Steering Committee?
In most cases yes, however the responsibilities of the Network Steering Committee chair and that of the Network Clinical Lead are distinct. The Network Steering Committee elects the chair from among its members. This allows for sharing of the leadership responsibilities among the network’s steering committee members. The Steering Committee may, however, elect the Network Clinical Lead as the chair.

Can I apply to be a Network clinical lead as a clinician in private practice or an employee of a private hospital?
Yes. Clinicians in private practice or those employed solely by a private hospital can apply for the clinical lead position.
Can I apply if I am a clinician but am not a medical doctor?
Yes. Clinicians from the following clinician groups can apply to be the clinical lead – allied & scientific health, medical, nursing and midwifery, and pharmacy.

Can I apply if I live and work in a regional or rural area?
Yes. Regional and rural clinicians can apply.

How many hours a week does the clinical lead work? Are the hours on a set day each week or is this flexible?
In most cases the clinical lead is appointed on a theoretical 0.2 fulltime equivalent (FTE) basis. The Clinical Lead must demonstrate how they will have dedicated free time for the role. The day and hours are flexible and will be negotiated once an offer of appointment has been made. Applicants should note that sometimes the clinical lead will be required to attend meetings or events outside the agreed working hours.

Is the clinical lead paid?
As with a number of Clinical Networks interstate, Clinical Leads will usually not be paid in addition to their current employment if they work for SA Health. Clinicians may use non-clinical time for the work as already happens for some clinicians undertaking service to the profession, teaching or research roles. In some situations the Clinical Lead’s existing position may be backfilled to a maximum of 0.2 FTE.

What is the Clinical Lead’s period of tenure?
Clinical Leads are initially appointed for a period of two years with the possibility of a further two year extension.
Letter of confirmation template

Date

Professor Paddy Phillips
Department for Health and Wellbeing
11 Hindmarsh Square
Adelaide, SA 5000

Dear Professor Phillips

Application of <XXXX> for a position as Statewide Clinical Lead for the <XXXX> Statewide Clinical Network.

Position Number <XXXX>

I endorse <XXXX>’s application for a position as Statewide Clinical Lead, given their clinical experience, expertise, qualifications and accomplishments.

I approve for <XXXX> to be released from commitments at <XXXX> organisation for <XX> FTE for a term of two years.

Yours sincerely

Your name
Title
Organisation
Telephone number
Email address