

Position Description

Shared Care Worker – MND & Other Progressive Neurological Conditions

POSITION TITLE:	Shared Care Worker (Motor Neurone Disease and other Progressive Neurological Conditions)
LOCATION:	tbc
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Consortium manager and clinical lead (to be determined)

Organisational Context

The SMRPCC is an alliance of palliative care services in the Southern Metro Region of Melbourne with the aim to collaboratively implement the Victorian End of Life and Palliative Care framework in the region. The consortium is committed to improve access to palliative care for people with motor neurone disease and other progressive neurological conditions.

Position Context

Motor Neurone Disease is a life limiting disease and because of its nature, people diagnosed with MND may benefit from palliative care services throughout their disease trajectory.

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) funds Shared Care Worker roles in all eight-palliative care regional consortia established as part of the Victorian Government's *Strengthening palliative care: a policy for health and community care providers 2004-09*. This Shared Care Worker program has been in operation since 2009.

This position will be continuing the work of the MND shared care worker role for the equivalent of 2 days per week and explore how other progressive neurological conditions could be incorporated in the remaining time.

There is a wide range of progressive neurological conditions, and their prognosis is often longer than that of MND. This presents challenges around the timing for referral to palliative care. While these conditions have different trajectories, there are similarities in addressing the issues.

These include:

- addressing complex care needs
- training for palliative care staff

Position Purpose

The MND PNC Shared Care Worker position purpose:

- to ensure that the palliative care workforce has the knowledge and skills to support people with Motor Neurone Disease and other progressive neurological conditions (MND and other PNCs)
- to improve access to Palliative Care for people with Motor Neurone Disease
- to establish collaborative links with services in the community that support people with MND and other PNCs
- to explore how a regional resource position could improve access to palliative care for people with other progressive neurological conditions

Key Areas of Responsibility

- Provide secondary consultation to palliative care workers in the region when they are caring for a client with MND and other PNCs
- Disseminate information about MND and other PNCs to palliative care colleagues as appropriate, (e.g., webinars and pod casts, information sheets)
- Develop and deliver education to staff working in palliative care, and aged care about the disease and the services that are offered/available
- Organise the annual Program of Experience in MND (PEM) in conjunction with CHCB
- Be aware of and keep up to date regarding MND resources available from MND Australia, MND Victoria and other MND specialist organisations
- Actively promote the MND Inpatient and Community Top up funding programmes
- Collect and maintain data on referrals to palliative care services of people with MND and other PNCs
- Maintain regular communication with the MND Victoria Advisor in the region; attend biannual (minimum) networking meetings at MND Victoria and other forums/conferences as required
- Establish relationships with neurologists and movement disorder clinics to raise awareness for the need for palliative care
- Establish relationships between the consortium and relevant advocacy bodies (MS Society, Parkinson's Victoria, etc)

Key Selection Criteria

Essential

- Registered Nurse or Allied Health professional
- Significant experience in palliative care
- Good understanding of MND and other neurological conditions
- Excellent interpersonal and stakeholder management skills
- Demonstrated experience in preparing and delivering presentations in a variety of different formats e.g., face to face, webinar, via virtual technology
- Effective and efficient organisation and time management skills
- Be available to travel attend conferences and forums as required to maintain MND knowledge and networks
- Current driver's license

Desirable

- Qualification in education
- Experience in the management of people with palliative care and end of life care needs
- Project experience

Conditions of Employment

- Hours and time of work per week: 0 .6 EFT
- Level, classification and relevant Award or Certified Agreement
- Salary packaging available
- 3 months' probation period
- The position is currently available until the end of June 2022 with potential extension, subject to funding available
- Appointment to the position is subject to a satisfactory police check, prior to commencement