

Nephrology Registrar - 2019

Name of Unit/Specialty:	Nephrology
Head of Unit:	Prof David Power
Division:	Medical Services
Key Contacts:	Prof David Power 03 9496 5634 David.power@austin.org.au

Summary of unit and Position/s:

Austin Health is one of Victoria's largest health care providers. Comprised of Austin Hospital, Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital and Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre, Austin Health is a major teaching and research centre with numerous university and research institute affiliations.

Catering to diverse multicultural and veteran communities, Austin Health delivers vital statewide services to Victorians and a vast array of specialty services to the people of Melbourne's north-eastern corridor in a safety-focussed, team-orientated and stimulating work environment.

Austin Health has a well-established new hospital to provide a state-of-the-art facility. Mercy Hospital for Women has relocated to the Austin Hospital site and provides an opportunity for exposure to obstetric-related medical diseases.

Nephrology is part of the Medical Services Division and has a large program involving over 900 dialysis, renal transplant and chronic renal failure patients. The offices of the Unit have been completely refurbished, and are located away from the in-patient services building, on the 7th floor of the Harold Stokes Building (with a commanding view of the surrounding countryside) in an area not accessible to patients. Each of the registrars has a desk in this area and the use of full IT services and comprehensive library back up facilities. The Unit runs a tutorial programme for the registrars, provided by the consultant staff. Physicians from the Unit attend the Mercy Hospital, although there is no direct involvement of the renal registrars. Patients with obstetric renal problems, however, may be admitted to the Austin renal wards from the Mercy. The Department of Nephrology has a comprehensive clinical service with exposure to all dialysis modalities with a focus on home therapy, general nephrology with a range of autoimmune and genetic disorders, and transplantation. The kidney transplant program performs deceased donor and live donor transplants, including complex transplants across ABO incompatible barriers and is a major transplant centre linked to the Australian Paired Kidney Exchange program. The Nephrology Department continues to have established links with paediatric renal transplant program at The Royal Children's Hospital, the National Islet Cell Transplant program and the Liver Transplant Unit at Austin Health which collaboratively performs simultaneous liver and kidney transplants. The department also has a dedicated Live Donor Clinic which supports the live donor transplant program at Austin Health and The Royal Children's Hospital.

The Nephrology Department has an important role in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and is closely affiliated with the University of Melbourne, Department of Medicine. The Department also participates in clinical and basic research in Nephrology and Transplant Immunology. It is one of the best-known research Units in the country with medical nephrology Postgraduate students and continued NHMRC funding.

Research interests of the unit include the role of protein phosphorylation in the pathogenesis of diabetic complications and progression of kidney disease, mechanisms of proteinuria, identification of markers of early cardiovascular disease in renal patients, cellular mechanisms of atherosclerosis using mouse models (Apolipoprotein E deficient mice undergoing subtotal nephrectomy), and transplantation immunobiology, tolerance, early diagnosis of rejection using molecular markers and autoimmune disease.

Details of any pre-requisites/preferences for applicants:

All potential applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their application with David Power (phone 9496 5634 (secretary) or 9496 5041 (direct line); email David.power@austin.org.au).

Application Instructions / Selection Information:

Applications for Nephrology training are now centralised through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. Applicants must apply via the College of Physicians; however, individuals are strongly encouraged to contact The Department of Nephrology at Austin Health to discuss their application, including a full CV, in addition to the application process with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.

References:

It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that references are provided, when requested, and these will be subject to audit.

Important Dates to Remember:

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians Nephrology Matching Program and the application process is outlined on the College website. Applicants should refer to the College of Physician's website for the details.