POSITION SUMMARY

The position of Clinical Nurse Consultant Level 1 is responsible for assisting in all clinical aspects of the REINVEST Study, and will be based at a number of Community Correctional Facilities (formerly Probation and Parole) within the Western Sydney Area.

The REINVEST Study is an innovative NHMRC-funded clinical trial that uses an antidepressant to reduce impulsive behaviour (and hence reoffending) in violent offenders.

The study is a double blind randomised control study of the intervention among offenders based in the community and partners for this study include Corrective Services NSW, Hunter New England Health, the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research and Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network NSW.

ORGANISATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

UNSW Medicine

UNSW Medicine is a national leader in learning, teaching and research, with close affiliations to a number of Australia’s finest hospitals, research institutes and health care organisations. With a strong presence at UNSW Kensington campus, the faculty have staff and students in teaching hospitals in Sydney as well as regional and rural areas of NSW including Albury/Wodonga, Wagga Wagga, Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie.

Kirby Institute

The Kirby Institute is the major research body in Australia with responsibility for research into the clinical and epidemiological aspects of HIV/AIDS. It is also responsible for research into these aspects of other blood borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections. The Kirby Institute carries out its functions by working with an extensive range of collaborators,
including the other national HIV research centres, State and Territory Health Departments, public and private clinical units, national and international organisations, and the corporate sector including the pharmaceutical industry.

The Kirby Institute was formed on the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR) and named for former High Court judge Michael Kirby AC. It is directly affiliated with the Faculty of Medicine at UNSW Australia. The Kirby Institute is located on levels 5&6 of the Wallace Wurth Building at the UNSW Kensington campus.

Justice Health Program

The Justice Health program has been recently formed at the Kirby Institute to undertake research into offender health including adult and juvenile offenders. Projects include the National Prison Entrants Bloodborne Virus Survey, an examination of the role of Traumatic Brain Injury in offending behaviour, an intervention to reduce impulsivity in repeat-violent offenders, and hepatitis C treatment uptake in prison. The program also has a capacity building grant in the area of Indigenous offender health.

Reporting Relationships

Supervisor’s title: Study Coordinator, currently occupied by Mr. Lee Knight

Other positions reporting to the supervisor: A Research Nurse

Positions reporting to this position: N/A

Other relationships: Work with Correctional Officers.

KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Undertake patient assessment and monitoring in the community including comprehensive psychiatric assessment, physical examination and completing all study tools.
- Recruit eligible offenders whilst based at 3-4 Western Suburb Community Correctional Centres.
- Initiate, conduct and disseminate the findings of locally based research into this population.
- Ensure that patient assessments are performed according to the study protocol and according to International Conference on Harmonisation - Good Clinical Practice (ICH GCP) requirements as defined by the relevant standard operating procedures.
- Assist the study coordinator with the maintenance of study documents at the JHRP and sites and support adherence to other aspects of study protocol.
- Provide interpretation of study documents to other staff employed on the study.
- In conjunction with the study coordinator, liaise with participating sites, clinicians and drug manufacturer regarding the study requirements.
Attend clinics at the selected sites, as required and ensure that data collection instruments are complete and accurate and ensure other staff on the study adheres to the study protocol.

Liaise with data entry and data management staff to maintain current, complete and accurate study databases.

Travel to the study sites to perform on-site monitoring and coordination duties as required. Collect blood samples from participants, as required.

Participate in other activities and attend team meetings and investigator meetings.

Review with other personnel, study protocols, subject information and consent forms and submit variations to Human Research and Ethics Committees for approval.

Assist in the maintenance of study records by clerical staff at partner institutions and identify inaccuracies or problems in completion of data forms and inform appropriate staff.

Comply with all WH&S requirements in off-campus sites to ensure and maintain a safe working environment for clinic based research team.

Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

- A master’s degree in Mental Health or equivalent (or working towards same).
- Qualifications as a Registered Nurse with a current licence to practice from the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (AHPRA), with a minimum five years full time equivalent post registration experience in mental health. Proven clinical leadership skills and an ability to work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary framework with a demonstrated commitment to excellence in nursing practice.
- Demonstrated effective communication and inter-personal skills across a variety of mediums and knowledge of the practice development framework for clinical practice.
- Demonstrated involvement in the development/change of clinical practice underpinned by evidence based research.
- Proven ability to apply clinical expertise in offender populations and the ability to work independently or as part of a team.
- Clinical experience with violent offenders or aggressive clients, as well as an understanding of psychometric tools used to assess impulsivity and personality disorders.
- Excellent clinical assessment skills, with a proven track record of comprehensive mental state examinations.
- Demonstrated experience in contributing to strategic and clinical service planning.
- Current NSW Drivers Licence and willingness to attend clinics situated in the Sydney metropolitan area, including, on occasion, Gosford / Wyong, if required.
- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training.