

POSITION TITLE	Cardiac Sonographer		
DIRECTORATE	Hospital group	DEPARTMENT	Cardiology Services
REPORTING TO	Medical Outpatient Operations	REPORTING TO	Professional Lead – Clinical
(operationally)	Manager	(professionally)	Physiology

DIRECTORATE RESPONSIBILITIES & DIRECT REPORTS

This role covers the Cardiology Service within the Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB)

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION

To perform and report adult transthoracic cardiac ultrasound examinations (echocardiograms) in both inpatient (ward, ED, ICU) and outpatient (hospital-based clinic and rural/community outreach clinic including Wairoa, Central Hawke's Bay and Napier) settings. The Cardiac sonographer will be able to perform stress echocardiograms, use echocardiogram contrast and assist Cardiologists with transoesophageal echocardiograms. Scanning expertise in adult congenital heart disease and/or paediatric echocardiograms will be advantageous. Professional development and interests in education and/or leadership will be encouraged.

The Cardiac sonographer will hold an appropriate post graduate qualification acceptable for registration with the Medical Radiation Technologist Board (MRTB) as a sonographer scope of practise. They will be able to perform all echocardiogram procedures to a high standard ensuring the needs of patients accessing the Cardiology service are met. Sonographers are responsible for the outcome of the ultrasound and will generate an accurate and comprehensive electronic report in a timely manner and where appropriate escalate all concerning echocardiogram findings so that they can be reviewed by the Cardiologists. They will also be expected to interact professionally with and provide support to the nursing and medical staff and other professional staff working within the multidisciplinary team.

KEY DELIVERABLES

The Cardiac Sonographer will practice in accordance with the MRTB Code of Conduct and competencies for a Cardiac Sonographer.

Patient Care

- Complies with HBDHB policy and procedures, including the Code of Conduct
- Demonstrates respect for patients' rights, comfort and confidentiality
- Patient focused
- Ensures informed consent is adhered to where appropriate
- Encourages patient participation in procedures as appropriate
- Demonstrates cultural sensitivity in dealings with patients and their families/significant others
- Promotes customer satisfaction

High Quality Diagnostic Testing

- Consistently meet MRTB competency standards for competencies within scope of practice
- Follows all internal processes and guidelines for practice
- Efficient service delivery
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Maintaining Equipment & Supplies & Service

- Equipment, supplies and testing rooms and team areas are maintained and stocked
- Maintains current knowledge of correct technical operation of equipment, working within written operational guidelines/procedures
- Contributes positively to equipment maintenance & cleaning programmes
- Ensures equipment is maintained in good working order

Communication

- Effective & professional communication with all staff, patients, families and others regarding clinical care, in accordance with policies and procedures
- Attends and participates in regular team meetings
- Recognises and uses communication systems appropriately, e.g. paper processes, interpreter services
- Ensures information given to others is accurate, up-to-date and recognises ethical, cultural, professional and statutory requirements
- Seeks clarification from appropriate others if uncertain of intent of meaning of communications
- Written and oral work-related communications are clear, with essential information conveyed

Quality Improvement

- Actively participates in quality improvement activities
- Understands and uses Reportable Event system
- Participates in audit activities when required

Education

- Maintains education standard of a Cardiac Sonographer
- Participates in ongoing professional development
- Maintains Advanced level CPR Skills
- Active involvement in departmental & relevant external education and equipment training sessions
- Provides clinical supervision to junior colleagues

Maintaining Professional Standards

- Complies with the MRTB and other relevant Codes of Conduct
- Participates as a responsible, professional member of the Cardiology Services in the Central Region
- Participates in research where relevant
- Performance management

HEALTH & SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

HBDHB is committed to maintaining and promoting the health & safety of all its staff, contractors, volunteers and patients. In this role, your duties are:

- Not to do anything that puts your own H&S at risk
- Not to do anything that puts others H&S at risk
- To follow all health and safety policies and procedures
- To follow all reasonable health and safety instructions
- (You have the right to cease work if you believe that you, or others, are at risk of serious harm).

KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

INTERNAL

- Patients/Consumer/Tangata Whaiora
- Medical Outpatient Operational Manager
- Professional Lead Clinical Physiology
- Director of Allied Health Hospital Group
- Wider department nursing & medical team
- Wider organisational clinical teams
- Chief Allied Health Professions Officer
- Allied Health Professionals
- Medical staff
- Nursing staff
- Other team members

EXTERNAL

- Other service providers
- Primary & NGO sector
- Rural health providers
- Regional / other DHB services
- MRTB
- Administration staff
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DELEGATION AND DECISION	None
EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT & SALARY	In accordance with the DHB's /APEX Multi Employer Collective Agreement (MECA) according to qualifications and experience pro rata for hours worked. Step 5 to Step 6
DATE	June 2022
FTE	1.0 FTE (80hrs/fortnight) negotiable

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

Knowledge and Experience:

- Holds experience as a Cardiac Sonographer and is able to work independently
- Paediatric sonography and adult congenital heart disease experience
- Able to take a turn to provide outreach clinics as required once assessed and deemed competent
- Able to contribute to training of echocardiography to other technical and physiology staff both locally and from the region, as appropriate
- Hold a valid New Zealand drivers' licence

Professional Qualifications / Accreditations / Registrations:

- Attained DMU or QUT or other MRTB recognised Cardiac Sonographer qualification
- Registered with MRTB as a Sonographer (cardiac) and maintains an APC, or eligible to register with MRTB as a Cardiac Sonographer upon successful employment.
- Holds a current advanced Resuscitation certificate

Key Attributes

- Effective communication skills.
- Positive attitude.
- Working within a team for good outcomes for patients who access the Cardiology Diagnostic service.

Effectively Engaging with Māori

- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of local tikanga and Māori culture sufficiently to be able to respond appropriately to Māori
- Is visible, welcoming and accessible to Māori consumers and their whānau
- Actively engages in respectful relationships with Māori consumers and whānau and the Māori community
- Actively seeks ways to work with Māori consumers and whānau to maximise Māori experience
- Actively facilitates the participation of whānau in the care and support of their whānau member

Physical requirements for role:

Agility

- Able to kneel
- Able to get 1 knee up on bed
- Able to squat
- Able to raise arms above head
- Able to reach arms out in front

Fitness

Able to walk up 2 flights of stairs without stopping

Strength

- Able to do at least 3 half press ups (i.e. on knees)
- Manual handling competence evidence

Vaccination status for role:

Vaccinations as per the current employee immunisation policy including annual influenza vaccination and COVID-19 vaccination.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

Experience

- Basic computer skills
- Previous project-management & leadership experience



Our Vision and Values

Te hauora o te Matau-a-Māui: Healthy Hawke's Bay

Excellent health services working in partnership to improve the health and wellbeing of our people and to reduce health inequities within our community.



HE KAUANUANU RESPECT

Showing *respect* for each other, our staff, patients and consumers. This means I actively seek to understand what matters to you.

AKINA IMPROVEMENT

Continuous *improvement* in everything we do. This means that I actively seek to improve my service.

RARANGA TE TIRA PARTNERSHIP

Working together in *partnership* across the community. This means I will work with you and your whānau on what matters to you.

TAUWHIRO CARE

Delivering high quality *care* to patients and consumers. This means I show empathy and treat you with care, compassion and dignity.

