

# Application Pack for the positions of Co-Lead Palliative Care Statewide Clinical Network

## Organisational Context

The Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health (CEIH) provides 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 brings together expertise from clinicians, consumers, health partners and other relevant stakeholders to maximise health outcomes for patients.

The CEIH has three directorates:

- Consumer and Clinical Partnership
- Clinical Informatics
- Human Centred Design and Innovation

Establishing Statewide Clinical Networks is a core component of the CEIH's commitment to partnerships and engagement.

## Statewide Clinical Networks

Statewide Clinical Networks (SCNs) 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 SCNs 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 SCN Lead. All staff involved in the particular service area of the designated Network are considered members of that SCN, including those outside SA Health.

The SCNs Lead will report to the Commissioner through the CEIH Executive Director Consumer and Clinical Partnerships.

SCNs are not for an unlimited time duration. Depending on the Network's plan and priorities developed by the Steering Committee a time line will be negotiated with the Commission. It is estimated that most Networks will be of 3 to 5 years duration.

Let's put  
imagination to work

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## Statewide Clinical Network Lead

The SCN Lead can be from the public or private sectors, any clinical profession (and can be at any stage of their career (they do not need to be in a management position), or a consumer, carer or advocate.

They will:

- Be a leader in their field, with an excellent knowledge of their area of the nominated SCN, 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.
- 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 SCN Lead will provide leadership and advice to the CEIH on matters affecting quality and safety in their area of practice. The SCN Lead may be a Consumer or Carer or any health professional, including Allied and Scientific Health, Nursing and or Midwifery and Medical.

The SCN Lead collectively along with other stakeholders will form the CEIH's Statewide Network Executive Group 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 SCN Lead will work collaboratively with the CEIH on the development and implementation of the clinical improvement projects.

## Palliative Care Statewide Clinical Network

Until now all the SCN lead positions have been one person.

The Palliative Care SCN was established by the CEIH in 2019. The inaugural Palliative Care SCN Lead was a clinician, Dr David Holden. Dr Holden has resigned and will leave the position at the end of June 2021.

The CEIH is committed to partnering with consumers and clinicians to build and sustain high performance teams by providing an environment which supports, nurtures, and develops the CEIH team, consumers and clinicians to realise their full potential, with this in mind the CEIH has taken this change as an opportunity to review leadership roles in this SCN's.

The CEIH has decided to appoint co-leads for the Palliative Care SCN. The co-lead position will consist of a:

- Community Representative Lead
- Clinical Lead

Co-leads will add value by ensuring the involvement of consumers as well as clinicians at the highest level of the strategic Palliative Care SCN processes and the setting of priorities.

It is expected that the Co-leads position will work together and still meet the requirements as detailed above in the description of the SCN Lead positions.

## Why Apply?

As a SCN Lead you will:

- Have a unique opportunity to provide leadership and to share innovations and improvements across the South Australian health care system.
- Provide leadership and advice to CEIH and SA Health on matters affecting quality and safety.
- Represent and advocate on behalf of the clinical network with other networks, CEIH, SA Health and to the broader health service community.
- Work with clinicians, consumers, carers, the CEIH, other SCN's and other relevant agencies to improve the health of South Australians.

## What do I need to know?

- The SCN Co-Leads will be selected by a panel of experts, a consumer representative and the Executive Director of Consumer and Clinical Partnerships following an expression of interest and merit based selection process.
- The CEIH Commissioner will confirm final appointment.
- The application process will be advertised and promoted online.
- **Applications close Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021.**

## How to apply?

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

Include the following:

- A one-page cover letter.
- A current curriculum vitae, maximum of four pages.
- If applicable; A confirmation letter from your health employer (template included below) which includes their endorsement and approval for secondment and nominated release time (e.g. <0.1 / 0.2 FTE for 2 years).

## More Information

For any enquiries, or to submit your application, please contact:

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Executive Director, Consumer and Clinical Partnerships  
Commission for Excellence and Innovation in Health  
GPO Box 287  
Rundle Mall  
Adelaide, SA, 5000  
[CEIH@sa.gov.au](mailto:CEIH@sa.gov.au)

Phone: 8226 0883

# Frequently asked questions

## What is the Co-lead position comprised of?

It is two people working together, a Community Representative Lead and Clinical Lead.

The Clinical Lead may be any health professional, including Allied and Scientific Health, Nursing, Midwifery and Medical. They can be either from the public or private health practice domains or both.

## Both Co-Leads are expected to:

- Be a leader in their field, with an excellent knowledge in their area of the nominated SCN, 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.
- 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.
- Share and report on activities of committees across the network.

## What is the role and responsibilities of the Community Representative Lead?

The role is to:

- Be a leader in representing the interest of carers, consumers and the community.
- Connect with stakeholders to build understanding of the needs of the community.
- Identify appropriate opportunities to contribute the community experience of palliative care.

The responsibilities are:

- Attend and chair regular SCN meetings.
- Represent collective views, concerns and issues rather than their own person opinion, individual view or interests.
- Act as two way communication link between the CEIH, SCN, and broader community.
- Observe confidentiality requirements of the CEIH and SCN.
- Sign a conflict of interest form.

## What is the role and responsibilities of the Clinical Lead?

The role is to:

- Be a leader in representing the interest of Allied Health, Nursing, and Medical health professionals (collectively called Clinicians)
- Connect with stakeholders to build understanding of the needs across clinical services.
- Identify appropriate opportunities to contribute the clinician experience of palliative care.

The responsibilities are:

- Attend and chair regular SCN meetings.
- Represent collective clinician views, concerns and issues rather than their own person opinion, individual view or interests.
- Act as two way communication link between the SCN, CEIH and broader community.
- Observe confidentiality requirements of the SCN and the CEIH.
- Sign a conflict of interest form.

## How is the SCN Co-Lead's time used?

The SCN Co-Leads 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 Palliative Care SCN Co-Leads will meet with the other SCN Leads as a collective group (Statewide Clinical Network Executive Group) 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.

## How many hours a week does the SCN Co-Lead work? Are the hours on a set day each week or is this flexible?

Each SCN Co-Lead is appointed on a theoretical 0.1 fulltime equivalent (FTE) basis. The SCN 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 SCN Co-Lead will be required to attend meetings or events outside the agreed working hours.

**Does the SCN Co-Lead automatically chair the Statewide Clinical Network Steering Committee?**

Yes, however the responsibilities of the Network Steering Committee chair and that of the SCN Lead are distinct. The SCN Co-Leads can delegate chairing duties to another member of the Steering Committee on a temporary basis. They might like to have one Co-Lead as chair and one Co-Lead as deputy chair and then swap after a certain time period.

**Can I apply if I live and work in a regional or rural area?**

Yes. Regional and rural clinicians can apply.

**Is the SCN Co-Lead paid?**

*SA Health Employees:* As with a number of Clinical Networks interstate, SCN Leads will usually not be paid in addition to their current employment if they work for SA Health. 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 SCN Lead's existing position may be backfilled to a maximum of 0.1 FTE.

*Non SA Health Clinicians and Consumers / Carers:* Remuneration will be negotiated with the CEIH Executive if they are a non SA Health clinician or a consumer, carer or advocate.

**What is the SCN Lead's period of tenure?**

SCN Leads are initially appointed for a period of 12 months with the possibility of a further extension of up to 2 years.

# Letter of confirmation template if a health employee

Date

Professor Derek Chew

Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health  
Level 7, 11 Hindmarsh Square  
Adelaide, SA 5000

Dear Professor Chew

I write to provide acknowledgement that <XXXX> is currently employed as a/n <position> with the [LHN] in their substantive <X.XX> FTE position. I am pleased to continue my support for them providing their expert knowledge in leadership of Palliative Care Statewide Clinical Network with the CEIH as a component of their substantive role.

The LHN recognises this engagement at CEIH as an opportunity for <name> to act, in their LHN capacity as a statewide leader for broader health system improvement and, given <his/her> role at the LHN, in supporting the LHN functions at a local level.

I fully endorse <name>'s work with the Statewide Clinical Network at CEIH as a critical part of their role with <LHN> in delivering our strategy locally and in delivering better health care for all South Australian's. <LHN> acknowledges these duties as part of the <name> substantive role and as a cost of our business.

We are pleased to continue this partnership for the duration of <name>'s appointment as the Lead of the Statewide Clinical Network.

I endorse <XXXX>'s application for a position as Statewide Clinical Network Co-Lead, given their experience, expertise, qualifications and accomplishments.

Yours sincerely

Your name Title  
Organisation  
Telephone number  
Email address