

Advanced skills role and model of service delivery: Paediatrics

Setting	Focus of care and influence	Role	Key connections
General practice	Patients	<p>Enhance access to, and quality delivery of, paediatric care in rural and remote communities by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holistic, high quality, primary and emergency medical care as a Rural Generalist including participation in on-call duties, supervision, and support of trainees. Expert management of paediatric related problems across emergency, inpatient and primary care settings including discipline specific assessment / intervention. Establishment of and participation in paediatric specific clinics – eg. developmental paediatrics, Diabetes, RHD etc. Establishment of referral pathways and various innovative community specific health delivery methods (eg. telehealth) to meet community need. Coordinating and integrating patient care across primary, secondary and specialty services. Building capacity and skills of the rural healthcare team. Development / review of relevant hospital protocols. Facilitate application of relevant legislation and guidelines locally. Advocacy and promotion of future development of paediatric services and preventative programs (eg. youth diversionary programs etc.) building community resilience and social capital. Development of / participation in/ supporting community outreach programs addressing specific community needs, such as vaccination, school visits, health promotion at play groups, shelters etc. Other opportunities for additional scope of extended practice, including roles in neonatal resus, management, research and education. 	Community paediatric outreach service
Hospital	Community		General Practice/Primary Care colleagues
Community Child Health Services	Colleagues		Tertiary paediatrics Consultant Paediatrician Paediatric Registrar Child Health Nurse
Primary health care centre	Health service / practice		Private paediatric specialist
Community Controlled Health Service			Multidisciplinary allied services - public and private
Other			Community and government service providers eg. Department of Child Safety, AODS, NDIS, Department of Public Health)
			Community organisations and stakeholders eg. Police-Citizens Youth Club, Returned Services League, local council, schools, child care providers

Examples of what the Paeds AST job might look like in practice:

What the job looks like will depend on your location/context, community need and your skills/interests, every RG who has a paeds AST uses theirs slightly differently. The following examples provide an idea of what a week in the life of an RG with paeds AST might look like but there are many different models and ways the role can work best for you and your community. It is what you make it.

Mixed hospital and primary care context options

- 2-3 days ward/ED including on-call responsibilities
 - o Using paeds expertise where applicable to the patients in these contexts
- 2-3 days primary care/discipline specific clinics with a paeds focus
 - o Diagnosis, management, follow up
 - o Close liaison with the local and visiting paeds teams and involved agencies and support networks

Working in regional hospital Paediatric department doing paeds call and Gen Paeds/Developmental clinic

- o We cover birth suite (+emergency CS), nursery, paeds ward, phone advice for remote sites/accepting transfers, paed MET, ED for advice/admissions
- o Option to participate in the night roster
- o Multidisciplinary paed T1DM and T2DM clinics and will eventually commence ADOS clinics and FASD assessment clinics

Primarily hospital context options

- Combining an anaesthetics and paeds AST has allowed some RGs to build skills in paediatric critical care providing expertise and support to the team when they are faced with paediatric emergency presentations and situations and surgical lists

Primarily private GP/AMS options

- Primarily general practice work covering everything and anything
 - o Incorporated outreach to schools for routine health checks (could be aligned with GPs in Schools project)
 - o This really helped with community engagement, screening for developmental and wellbeing concerns and integration with schools/key educational staff
- General Practice in AMS only doing child health with outreach to remote indigenous communities
- Involved linking in with local paeds specialty service for support of primary care developmental assessment clinic

Other hats our RGs with Paeds AST hold

- Academic/research roles with University/College etc.
- Supervisors/examiners for GP colleges/Paeds CPD organisations eg APLS
- GP Liaison roles