**SPECIALIST COMMUNITY PHYSIOTHERAPIST**

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| **Location:** |  |
| **Responsible to:** | Team Leader |
| **Grade/Band** | 6 |

**Main Purpose of the Job**

To manage a caseload of patients independently and be accountable for assessing, interpreting, planning and implementing physiotherapy treatment and care to patients within professional guidelines. Wherever possible to avoid hospital admission and reduce inpatient length of stay to ensure that patients receive the appropriate care in the most appropriate setting and to keep the patient at the centre of his or her care, ensuring patient and carer participation in decision making.

**Main Responsibilities and Duties**

1. To lead, support and work within a multi-professional team.
2. To undertake specialist and complex assessments and care planning.
3. Supervise and train junior staff and students.

**Patient Client Care**

1. Ensure own clinical credibility through professional practice, regular updating and maintaining clinical skills.
2. To update own knowledge in light of current research and practice.
3. To deliver clinical care for a variety of patients, some with extremely complex needs.
4. To arrange packages of care for patients with continuing health care (CHC) needs.
5. Accountable for the assessing, interpreting, planning, implementing and evaluating of care plans. Ensuring that care needs and wishes are carefully and accurately documented in the clinical records.
6. To ensure consent for any treatment is undertaken and documented.
7. Ensure effective communication of complex, sensitive patient information, between hospital, community professionals, patients and carers, promoting collaborative inter agency working, this will include overcoming communication difficulties (e.g. hearing/language).
8. To prescribe medication and other items safely and appropriately within the context of national and local policies, guidelines and formularies.
9. To enable patients to reach their optimum level of independence.
10. Give care and support to terminally ill patients and their carers/relatives, including discussing prognosis and preparation for death, ensuring other relevant agencies are involved.
11. To have sound knowledge of infection control, to reduce risk of health care acquired infections.

**Financial Responsibilities**

All staff will support their managers to make efficient and effective use of resources.   
All staff are responsible for identifying any actual or potential deviation from budgets and are to work with the budget holder or manager to find effective ways of handling it.

All staff must ensure they use resources in a manner consistent with organisational objectives and policies, ensuring that resources are realistic, justified and of clear benefit to the organisation.

**Budget Responsibilities**

Not applicable – this is not a budget-holder post.

**Responsibilities for People or Training**

1. Provide and receive clinical supervision and provide high quality leadership to ensure ongoing high standards.
2. To develop and demonstrate clinical credibility through professional practice, supervision and regular updating of clinical skills.
3. To facilitate the development of individual team members.
4. To provide peer support.
5. To facilitate and provide teaching to patients, carers and team members.
6. To promote best practice, monitor and support junior staff and students.
7. Provide an effective learning environment, information, education and advice to other health and social care professionals and patients.
8. To provide clinical/fieldwork education placement for pre-registration students and to support that provision for other disciplines.
9. To actively participate in promoting Health e.g. smoking cessation, healthy diet and sign-posting to appropriate services or support groups.
10. Develop and maintain skills required for patient care within a community setting.
11. To undertake the supervision, appraisals and personal development reviews of physiotherapists within the team in line with Knowledge and Skills Framework (KSF).

**Other Factors**

1. To support the Community Team Leader with the day to day prioritisation, planning and delivery of a high quality physiotherapy service.
2. Organise and manage own time and that of junior staff/students, allocating work appropriately in order to achieve the patient’s goals.
3. To manage risks in diverse and sometimes challenging environments.
4. To ensure that record keeping is to a consistently high standard in accordance with local and national standards.
5. To undertake the recruitment of physiotherapy staff in conjunction with the Team Leader.
6. To ensure high levels of effective communication occur between all team members.
7. To promote and facilitate communication to staff, patients and carers.
8. To ensure that clear communication routes exist within and between teams and other agencies.
9. To use evidence-based practice, to ensure clinical care is effective.
10. To maintain Clinical Governance Standards through audit, research and evidence gathering.
11. Assist in the monitoring and protecting of groups and individuals whose health and well-being may be at risk e.g. vulnerable adults.
12. To record daily statistics on computer for audit purposes and to improve the clinical management of patients.
13. To highlight and report appropriate and potential risks.
14. To work with and beyond the immediate team to promote service development and new ways of working.

**Flexibility**

This job description is not intended to be exhaustive and it is likely that duties may be altered from time to time in the light of changing circumstances, in discussion with the post holder. This role profile is intended to provide a broad outline of the main responsibilities only. The post holder will need to be flexible in developing the role with initial and on-going discussions with the designated manager.

**Supplementary Information**

This job description should be read alongside the Supplementary Information provided on NHS Jobs for applicants and alongside the Employee Handbook for current staff members.

**Safeguarding Statement**

All Wiltshire Health and Care Staff have a responsibility to safeguard and protect adults and children, which includes an understanding of relevant organisation and Local Safeguarding adults and children’s Boards policies and their application to practice.

**Specialist Community Physiotherapist** **– Person Specification**

The following criteria will be assessed from information provided on your completed application form, during the shortlisting and assessment process, and by your referees.

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| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Education, Qualifications and Training** | * MCSP Dip PT / BSc / BSc(Hons) PT / MSc Physiotherapist * Registered as a Physiotherapist with the Health and Care Professionals Council * Relevant Post graduate qualification * Teaching and assessing in clinical practice * To possess a current, valid driving licence and to be a competent driver * Evidence of continuing professional development * Knowledge of legislation affecting professional practice | * Experience of applying research based information to practice * Non-medical prescriber * Leadership and Management training * Further qualifications relevant to community practice * Awareness of recent Government initiatives that may affect future clinical practice * To be knowledgeable of the clinical governance agenda and have an awareness of commissioning |
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| **Experience & Knowledge** | * Up to date community experience * Case management experience * Experience of working with adults * Working with a multi-disciplinary team * Leadership experience * Teaching experience * Knowledge of recruitment, selection & appraisal system * Setting and monitoring standards of care * Experience within a wide range of patient/client care groups | * Profiling community needs and targeting identified health needs of population * Evidence of innovative and flexible approach to care and the organisation of care |
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| **Skills** | * To be able to communicate with people from a wide range of backgrounds * To be able to work flexibly and sensitively * Wide range of interpersonal and communication skills * Competence in a wide range of physiotherapy skills * I.T. literate * Skills in preparing and presenting teaching sessions * Undertake specific physiotherapy tasks requiring precision and/or intense concentration. Undertaking complex physiotherapy skills * Manual handling skills and experience * Ability to sensitively inform service users on complex and distressing issues. Able to support and facilitate staff in dealing with these * Situations * To be flexible and adaptable | * Organisational skills * Report writing * Further training in dealing with difficult situations * Willingness to undertake further training in I.T. skills. * Knowledge of mobile phone use. * Life experiences that have enhanced professional development * Specific speciality area |
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| **Other**  **Job-Related Requirements** | * Willing to work in other areas of  Wiltshire Health & Care as and when required to do so. |  |