**First Contact Physiotherapist –**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| **Job title** | First Contact Physiotherapist |
| **Reports to** | Physiotherapy Lead |
| **Base/Location** | City Hubs (multiple GP surgeries around Southampton) |
| **Hours** | Part time / fulltime |

Southampton Primary Care Limited (SPCL) aims to help improve access to general practice and stimulate innovative ways of providing Primary Care services. SPCL provides Hubs across Southampton for patients to have quick, easy access to Primary Care throughout the city. SPCL provides clinics 8:00-22:00 7 days a week. The Physiotherapy service provides one off ‘see and treat’ appointments to patients who self-refer, by First Contact Physiotherapists, giving an individual treatment plan which may include onward referral to other services.

# Job Purpose

* Provide clinical expertise, acting as a First-Contact Physiotherapist and making decisions about the best course of action for patients' care. This will involve seeing patients, without prior contact with their GP, in order to establish a rapid and accurate diagnosis and management plan.
* To carry a defined caseload, using evidence based/client centered principles to assess, plan, implement and evaluate interventions in the SPCL service.
* To work as part of a community based multi-disciplinary team To participate in weekend working, extended hours and in line with all SPCL service contracts, to ensure efficient therapy service provision in line with our priorities

# Key Duties/Responsibilities

**Clinical**

* Takes professional responsibility as a First-Contact Physiotherapist, with high-level decision-making and clinical-reasoning skills to assess, diagnose and treat patients
* To manage a complex caseload of patients with a wide variety of conditions
* To work with the patient to identify treatment goals as part of the overall treatment plan.
* Where appropriate, to provide education; advice and support to patients/carers on home management
* To ensure that the patients receive appropriate treatment to a high professional standard in accordance with the HCPC Standards of Registration and the Professional Standards and Code of Ethics of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists (CSP). To be professionally and legally accountable for all aspects of own work.
* To undertake a comprehensive assessment of patients with a wide range of clinical presentations. To use clinical reasoning skills and manual assessment techniques to identify problems on which to base an appropriate patient-centered treatment programme. To assess risk and manage it effectively within clinical and community settings
* To have knowledge, underpinned by theory, of clinical presentations and their implications within specific areas of practice e.g. medical conditions, post-surgical precautions, oncology, falls, orthopaedics and rehabilitation.
* To be flexible with their hours of work, dependent on the needs of the service.

# Administrative

* To maintain timely and accurate clinical records and statistical information as required. Complete paperwork as required for established in house administrative system.
* To carry out routine administration duties as requested.

**Communication/Documentation**

* To use a range of verbal and non-verbal communication tools to communicate effectively with patients in order to progress rehabilitation and treatment programmes.
* To ensure that up to date written and electronic records and activity data are maintained in accordance with Professional and SPCL standards.
* To form professional relationships with clients/carer and communicate with them in a way that respects their views, autonomy and culture
* To present oneself in a professional manner at all times

# Education/Professional Development

* To comply with the HCPC Standards of Registration and the CSP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, plus national and local policies and procedures.
* To attend all mandatory training sessions and actively participate in departmental in service training.
* Prepare and provide feedback to therapy and MDT team colleagues on any courses/training sessions attended.
* To maintain and develop current knowledge of evidence-based practice demonstrated through ‘Continual Professional Development (CPD) Portfolio’ in line with organisation and departmental guidelines.
* To review and reflect on own practice and performance through regular participation in professional supervision and appraisal.
* To participate in the induction, training and education of students, unqualified therapy staff, nursing staff and other staff.

# Research/Audit/Quality

* To actively contribute and participate in the planning and evaluation of service reviews/audits within the department.
* To ensure areas are well maintained and comply with health and safety guidelines, ensuring the safe use of equipment and storage of materials. Report any concerns to Therapy Lead.
* To contribute to SPCL clinical governance arrangements and quality agenda and participate in the delivery of the therapy development plan.
* To demonstrate basic understanding of national guidelines/legislation relating to health and social care and their impact on service provision.

# Management of Resources

* To assist in induction/orientation, education and support of departmental visitors and/or students on placement
* To exercise good personal time management, punctuality and a consistently reliable attendance record in line with SPCL Policy.
* To be proactive in providing feedback SPCL Leaders on areas where improvements can be made in order to assist in the planning and development of the service.

# Freedom to Act

* To adhere to the HCPC Standards of Registration and the CSP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct and all other relevant SPCL, Community Health Services and Social Services policies and procedures as appropriate to the rotation
* To carry a defined caseload as detailed above with support of senior colleagues as required

# Effort and Environment

* To frequently use moderate effort for long periods when providing physiotherapy in the rehabilitation of patients.
* Regular exposure in bodily fluids and infection hazards
* At times the post-holder will be working with critically ill or end of life patients and will need to provide a sensitive approach to the implementation of the treatments.
* Occasional exposure to challenging behavior or distressing circumstances and/or verbal aggression, plus hazardous environments in the community

**JOB SPECIFICATION**

Title: Senior Physiotherapist (Primary care)

Location: Southampton City

**ESSENTIAL CRITERIA**

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| FACTOR |  | METHOD OF  ASSESSING THE CRITERIA |
| Qualifications  and Experience | * Degree in Physiotherapy or   equivalent   * Registration with the HCPC * Experience as Senior Physiotherapist working in autonomous MSK role * Basic computer skills for communication, data collection and research purposes | Application Form  and Interview |
| Communication  skills | * Excellent verbal and written communication skills * Excellent interpersonal skills | Application Form  and Interview |
| Knowledge and  skills | * Knowledge of managing patients with a   variety of conditions and complex needs   * Demonstrates expert clinical reasoning skills in MSK physiotherapy * Ability to implement evidence based practice principles * Good self-management and ability to   prioritise workload and delegate tasks as appropriate   * Evidence of appropriate post-graduate training in a broad range of appropriate specialist areas in the form of a PDP. * Evidence of an active part in learning activities e.g. peer review. * Evidence of providing professional advice /   support   * Evidence of collaborative working within a multi-professional team | Application Form  and Interview |
| Quality | * Knowledge of the key components of Clinical & Social Care Governance | Application Form  and Interview |
| Equality and  Diversity | * Awareness of the policies, procedures and legislation relating to equality and diversity | Application Form  and Interview |

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| Other  Requirements/ Work Relating  Circumstances | * Must work flexibly to meet the needs of the   service   * Ability to carry out physically any duties in relation to the handling and treatment of patients * Hold a current full driving license valid in UK with access to a car or have access to an appropriate means of transport to undertake the duties of the post – this criterion will be waived in the case of an applicant whose disability prohibits alternative arrangements | Pre-employment  Health Assessment  / Application Form and Interview |

**DESIRABLE CRITERIA**

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| Service Improvement | * Evidence of participation in audit and/or research * Evidence of involvement in Service Improvement initiatives and outcomes | Application Form and  Interview |
|  | * Membership of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy | Application Form |
|  | * Experience of working in Primary care and first contact roles |  |