

## JOB DESCRIPTION

**JOB TITLE:** Chartered Physiotherapist - First Contact Practitioner

**JOB PURPOSE:**

Undertake the day to day planning, co-ordination, monitoring, evaluation and delivery of the first point of contact physiotherapy service provided to patients in the primary care setting.

**JOB SUMMARY:**

Work as an independent practitioner accepting patients without prior contact or referral from their GP.

Offer a triage and treatment service for patients who present in the GP practice with a range of complex and common MSK conditions

Identify the need for and refer patients for investigations and use the results to support diagnosis and decision-making re. treatment options

Develop MSK protocols, establishing and maintaining referral criteria to the MSK triage service, with clear exclusion and inclusion criteria

Work with GPs and other colleagues to develop and improve referral patterns, including to reduce pressures on secondary care services (including orthopaedics, rheumatology and pain clinics) and linked community services

Refer patients on to other members of the team/other services to optimise the care individual patients receive

**KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:**

Individuals will be able to:

Provide expert assessment to individuals' clinical needs, including to enable differential diagnosis

Exercise professional judgement in making, justifying and taking responsibility for decisions

Demonstrate the ability to progress and request investigations to facilitate diagnose and manage conditions in primary care

Lead and contribute to the use of healthcare technologies to optimise the integration of service delivery

Lead and contribute to the integration and efficient communication of the primary care teams

Operate as a full member of the primary care team

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Essential	Desirable
<p><u>Qualifications</u></p> <p>Degree in Physiotherapy</p> <p>HPCP Registration</p> <p>Member fo the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy</p> <p>Evidence of CPD maintained in portfolio</p> <p><u>Experience/skills</u></p> <p>Minimum of two years postgraduate experience including musculoskeletal out-patients</p> <p>Ability to work independently and to pass on knowledge/skills to others within both formal and informal environments</p> <p>Excellent communication and team working skills</p> <p>Clear history taking, taking into account social and psychological factors, making the appropriate choice of examination</p> <p>Investigates appropriately and ensuring follow up of results and action to be taken</p> <p>Utilises natural history of common problems in developing management plans responsively according to the circumstances</p> <p>Able to effectively manage patients with multiple co-morbidities</p> <p>Routinely check on drug interactions and side effects</p> <p>Remain updated with professional practice and new research</p>	<p>Motivational and leadership skills</p> <p>Excellent knowledge and involvement in audit, research, critical appraisal and understanding quality issues</p> <p>Show awareness of national and local prescribing guidance</p>

<p>Understand the legal responsibilities of the profession</p> <p>Evidence of appraisal and recent involvement in staff performance review</p> <p>Ability to use IT and clinical systems to a high standard</p> <p>Ability to organise and prioritise</p> <p>Understanding of clinical governance and its implications for services, including experience of quality issues and audit.</p> <p>Ability to comprehend and work within the company's policies of data protection</p> <p>Ability to cope working in a stressful environment with emotional patients and carers</p>	
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