
Assistant Clinical Physiologist Job Description

Physiological Measurement Department

Borders General Hospital

Responsible to Lead Clinical Physiologist

JOB PURPOSE

An Assistant Clinical Physiologist will assist in the provision of an efficient, high quality and effective diagnostic service within the Clinical Physiology Department of the Borders General Hospital. The department supports a variety of specialities including; Cardiology, Respiratory Function, Diabetics, Child Health, Mental Health etc. The post holder will perform a range of routine/emergency clinical physiological investigations and assist their senior colleagues with more complex clinical physiological investigations to appropriate standards in accordance with local and national guidelines.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Perform routine and urgent electrocardiograms on adult and paediatric patients within Borders General NHS Trust, so as to provide a quality inpatient and outpatient ECG service.
2. Prepare equipment for periods of ambulatory monitoring, both ECG and blood pressure. Attach equipment and advise patients, giving clear and concise instructions so as to optimise recording, assist with reporting in conjunction with clinical technologists
3. Perform routine and urgent spirometry investigations including reversibility studies and administer nebuliser medications when requested to do so.
4. Identify possible contra-indications to various types of Cardiology and Respiratory investigations.
5. Receive and assist patients and/or carers to prepare for Cardiology and Respiratory investigations.
6. Obtain additional information that will assist with planning and preparing of Cardiology and Respiratory investigations. Liaise with ward staff on mobility of In patients attending for investigations and provide portering service.
7. Support patients and/or carers during investigative Cardiology /Respiratory procedures.
8. Advise patients and/or carers/medical team following completion of investigative Cardiology procedures.
9. Assist with the inputting data on the British Pacing and Electrophysiology Group database and producing appointments for permanent pacemaker and loop recorder follow up checks.
10. Provide advice and information on the use of the Department's services to healthcare colleagues, patients and carers.

11. Record all modalities of Cardiology and Respiratory measurements to agreed performance standards.
12. Assess and maintain equipment and devices for safe use during Cardiology and Respiratory investigations.
13. Communicate technical equipment-related information to healthcare colleagues, patients, carers and suppliers.
14. Calibrate as required, and verify equipment prior to clinical use.
15. Handle and store equipment and consumables within accepted and safe limits.
16. Contribute to the research, training and development programmes within the Cardiology and Respiratory service.
17. Assist senior colleagues with the electrocardiogram and spirometry training of nurses and healthcare assistants working within Borders NHS Trust.
18. Responsible for maintaining own personal development and statutory training records.
19. The post holder works unsupervised but works within established local and national policies codes of practice i.e. NICE, SIGN, GOLD, SCST, ARTP

SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT

- The post holder will be responsible for the operation of the electrocardiograph (ECG machines)
- The operation and calibration of the Spirometers.
- The fitment of Life Card Digital Recorders (a compact Holter Ambulatory ECG recorder (24/48 hours and 7 day) utilising a digital storage technique which stores data on a Flash Card).
- The fitment of Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitors (ABP) - (battery powered units designed to take blood pressure and heart rate measurements over 24 hrs).
- The use of nebuliser equipment and appropriate correct administration of medication dependent upon patient's clinical requirements.
- The operation of the ABP Analysis System (PC Interface and Software) for data analysis, report printing and archiving.
- The use of departmental hospital based computer systems and patient archiving system-RIS.

DECISIONS AND JUDGEMENTS

Frequently works with minimal supervision in ward / department based situations (contactable by bleep or telephone) using own initiative but works within established local and national policies and codes of practice i.e. NICE SIGN, GOLD, SCST, ARTP etc. Exercises own judgement in order to prioritise own daily workload within a set of agreed priorities. The post holder will provide "face to face" advice to patients on non clinical issues. The post holder is expected to demonstrate a high degree of discretion and confidentiality with regard to the handling of sensitive patient and confidential consultant information. The post holder will

instigate emergency procedures if necessary. The post holder will comment on departmental policy.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS

The post holder will communicate with a variety of Healthcare colleagues within the NHS Borders Trust. These will predominately be patients, carers, members of the general public, equipment manufacturers etc. The post holder will assist departmental colleagues in facilitating the efficient running of the Clinical Physiology Department. The post holder provides an explanation of the purpose and nature of the diagnostic procedures / investigations to patients, their carers and / or other Health Care Professionals. The post holder will instruct, persuade, encourage, reassure and motivate patients to participate fully to their maximal potential during an investigation in order to produce accurate and relevant results. The post holder will have the ability to communicate well with patients who have learning or physical disabilities. The post holder will advise, instruct patients and / or their carers in the use of departmental ambulatory equipment and / or devices. The post holder may very occasionally be required to communicate in an antagonistic / hostile environment e.g. patients unwilling to cooperate during clinical procedures.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THE JOB

The post holder will be continually mobile for the majority of the day. There can be standing for prolonged periods of time, constant twisting & stretching across patients. The frequent movement of the electrocardiograph (approx 8Kg) around all wards of the Hospital including ITU, HDU, A&E etc as required occasionally forces the post holder to work in a restricted position in a confined area. The frequent manoeuvring of patients in wheel chairs including with oxygen cylinders and drip stands. Occasional use of moving and handling equipment e.g. hoists etc. in line with Moving and Handling regulations. Manual handling skills - Handling of patient's case notes / for storage of supplies delivered to department (moving and unpacking boxes).

MOST CHALLENGING/DIFFICULT PARTS OF THE JOB

The operation of all medical equipment with direct patient contact requires prolonged periods of intense concentration. Cardiac and Respiratory procedures require a rapid response to changes in a patient's condition and are never predictable. This therefore requires the frequent reprioritising of workload dependent upon requests received. The emotional pressure placed on the post holder when caring / dealing with acutely ill patients. The post holder may be occasionally handling confused, agitated patients or distressed and anxious children. Frequent exposure to body fluids e.g. body odours, blood, MRSA, faeces, vomit, sputum, gangrene etc.

KNOWLEDGE, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED TO DO THE JOB

No specific qualification required, often based upon work experience in a Healthcare environment. Continuing Professional Development (In service Training). It is preferred that staff on this grade attends ARTP/ASCT short course or equivalent on spirometry and ECG possibly leading to NVQ level 3. The post holder should have excellent communications skills and ability to work as part of a team. The post holder should understand a range (theoretical and practical) of routine work procedures following a period of in-house training and a suitable period of induction (0-6 months). The post holder requires having a working knowledge and/or awareness of local Health and Safety, Fire, Moving and Handling, Data Protection and Patient Confidentiality, Basic Life Support and any other procedures affecting the department and patient care. The post holder requires standard keyboard skills and a basic knowledge of medical terminology.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

All employees of the Trust have a statutory duty of care for their own personal safety and that of others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. Employees are required to cooperate with management to enable the Trust to meet its own legal duties and to report any hazardous situations or defective equipment.

FLEXIBILITY STATEMENT

The content of this job description represent an outline of the post only and is therefore not a precise catalogue of duties and responsibilities. The Job Description is therefore intended to be flexible and is subject to review and amendment in the light of changing circumstances, following consultation with the post holder.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All employees of the Trust are required to maintain the confidentiality of members of the public and members of staff in accordance with Trust policies.

Date Prepared: 13/2/2026

Prepared By: Austin Ramage

Date Reviewed:

Reviewed By:

Agreed By:
Employee's Name and Signature:

Date:

Agreed By:
Manager's Name and Signature:

Date:



Person Specification

Job Title	Assistant Clinical Physiologist
Job Reference:	
Band	3

Requirements	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	All training will be provided	All training will be provided Previous experience of working in the Healthcare sector
Training	All training will be provided	Moving and Handling training PMAV
Experience	Experience in working with the public	Experience of working in the Healthcare sector Experience of working with hospital IT systems
Personal Qualities	Pleasant individual Good interpersonal relation Honesty Reliability	Ability to work on own initiative
General	Verbal and written Communication skills Numerical skills Ability to work in a team	Ability to work on own initiative