

**NHS Dumfries & Galloway
Job Description**

Job Title: Occupational Therapist (Rotational) – Band 5

Department(s): Occupational Therapy Service, Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary.
-Care of Elderly, Rehabilitation, Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedics (with possible rotation to Community)

Job Holder Reference:

No. of Job Holders: 4/5

Job Purpose:

To provide Occupational Therapy to patients within the above specialities as part of established Occupational Therapy teams on a 6 monthly rotational basis.
To assess and treat patients as part of the multi-disciplinary team to promote independence in daily living activities thus facilitating safe discharge.
To undertake other clinical and non-clinical duties, as required by the Occupational Therapy Service.

Organisational Position:

See attached chart

Scope and Range:

To undertake all Occupational Therapy duties as part of the Occupational Therapy and multi-disciplinary teams in the respective specialities/departments.
To work as an autonomous practitioner whilst under the supervision of senior occupational therapy staff. To supervise clinical support staff.

Main Duties/Responsibilities:

- Undertake assessment, treatment planning and goal setting in collaboration with patients
- Carry out evidence based occupational therapy treatments and interventions
- Undertake a range of treatment activities including provision of Activities of Daily Living equipment
- Carry out home environmental visits with patients to assess and plan for safe discharges
- Manage own caseload including the use of appropriate clinical prioritisation skills
- Evaluate patient progress and modify intervention programmes as required
- Work with senior staff to ensure high quality occupational therapy service to all units as per rotation
- Function as part of the respective multi-disciplinary teams to deliver efficient and effective patient care
- Delegate appropriate tasks to clinical support staff
- Provide support to clinical support staff
- Work as part of the overall Occupational Therapy team to deliver a high quality OT Service within Acute Services.
- Provide advice to patients and carers as part of treatment episodes
- Maintain accurate and comprehensive treatment records in line with professional, organisational and legal requirements

- Collect statistical data as required by service and organisation
- Undertake clinical audit as required to inform service delivery and operational planning
- Perform to a high standard by developing clinical skills as required. These being identified through CPD, appraisal and within a framework of professional supervision
- Take responsibility for own CPD by updating clinical skills as required by profession and service
- Participate fully in regular in-service training programmes per specialist unit/department
- Advise and teach other members of healthcare workforce/volunteers relative to the OT component of patient care to ensure an all-encompassing approach to rehabilitation

Systems and Equipment:

- To be responsible for the safe use of a range of assistive aids and equipment as per joint arrangement with social services to facilitate patient independence
- To understand and apply the safe use of other patient care equipment including – specialist beds, hoists, stand aids, sliding sheets, wheel chairs etc.
- To be competent in the use of patient notes recording systems
- To demonstrate a working knowledge of appropriate general and specialist software packages and use of intranet/internet technology
- To safely drive pool car and carry patients and other staff as passengers

Decisions and Judgements:

- To accept, assess, plan, undertake, complete and/or discontinue Occupational Therapy interventions as per presenting clinical condition/status of all patients on an individual and holistic basis
- To accept an appropriate caseload from senior staff and thereafter take responsibility for organising and planning such
- To prioritise own caseload on a daily basis
- To understand workload of unit/service and plan working day around individual case load and service needs
- To identify appropriate workload for clinical support staff
- To re-evaluate workload and required interventions
- To deal with constantly changing situations – alarm systems, patient demands, access to patients and equipment
- To undertake continual risk assessment sometimes within areas where reducing risk to a desired level is difficult
- Work autonomously where appropriate whilst realising own limitations, seeking help/advice as required to ensure safe and effective patient care at all times
- Provide OT perspective as part of discharge planning
- Make judgements regarding patient functional ability, including safety in self-care. This informs decisions on the level of community care required post discharge

Communication and Relationships:

- Communicate effectively and appropriately with patients, family, carers, the public and all members of the extended health and social care team using a range of verbal, non-verbal, written and presentation skills as required
- Identify and modify the most appropriate communication method dependent on the requirements of person(s) being communicated with e.g. sensory impairment, disinterested, learning difficulties, language barriers etc.
- Reassure, support, encourage patients and carers as part of the rehabilitation, recuperation process
- Convey comprehensive detail of care/OT treatment in a manner and at a rate which is appropriate for every individual emphasising and reiterating points as and when to ensure a full understanding

- Identify frequency of communication that is required to ensure an effective exchange of communication and care planning
- Explain role of occupational therapy to a range of people and clarify appropriateness or not of intervention and continuation/discontinuation of treatment
- Encourage and motivate patients to maximise outcome
- Convey information in a particularly sensitive manner when it is contrary to patient, carer and family expectations and desires

Physical Demands of the Job:

- Manual handling of patients on a daily basis.
- Demonstrating correct use of OT specialist equipment on a daily basis including bath aids, chairs, wheelchairs, bathing aids etc in hospital and home environment
- Daily use of standard equipment – hoists, walking aids, specialist beds, tilt tables etc. which require manipulation and dexterity and often manoeuvring within confined spaces
- Fitting assistive devices and activities of daily living equipment in patients' home environment. This can often be in confined and awkward spaces
- Significant degree of walking, climbing stairs, standing and working within confined and awkward spaces on a daily basis.
- Driving in rural locations – sometimes for long distances.

Most Challenging/Difficult Parts of the Job:

- Dealing with critically ill, deteriorating, demanding, un-co-operative patients and relatives
- Motivating patients to carry out therapy and advice to an optimum level to attain best outcome
- Working across a number of 'sites'/specialities in one day – out patients/in patients or several wards at the same time.
- Varying degrees of a multidisciplinary approach to patient care in different units and from different health care staff
- Prioritising own and service demands to ensure high quality patient care
- Daily exposure to bodily fluids
- Regular exposure to infective and high risk conditions

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<p>Qualifications Degree or Diploma in Occupational Therapy HCPC Registration Current Driving License or means of being transported around the area.</p>	
<p>Skills Excellent communication skills - both verbal and written. Ability to carry out basic functional assessments and develop and implement treatment plans.</p>	<p>Moving and handling.</p>
<p>Experience Varied experience in various settings as a student An interest in working in an acute / community setting. Experience working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.</p>	<p>Previous experience working in a physical setting.</p>
<p>Knowledge Excellent knowledge of OT theory and core skills.</p>	<p>Knowledge of medical conditions encountered in a physical setting and appropriate interventions. Knowledge of current national developments related to Occupational Therapy.</p>
<p>Personal Warm and friendly personality. Good communication skills. Be flexible and adaptable. Ability to use own initiative but seek clarification when in doubt. Be able to manage own caseload effectively and prioritise workload. Ability to remain calm under pressure.</p>	

**Acute Occupational Therapy (DGRI) NHS D&G
ORGANISATIONAL CHART**

