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# **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**1. JOB DETAILS**

**Job Title: PHYSIOTHERAPIST**

**Department(s): Physiotherapy**

**Job Holder Reference: E-BN-AHP-097**

**No of Job Holders:**

**2. JOB PURPOSE**

Provide direct clinical care to patients in one of the AHP Care Groups, in a safe and effective manner. This encompasses physiotherapy assessment, advice, treatment and management, to a variety of cliental in different areas of the hospital.

**3. ORGANISATIONAL POSITION**

**ROLE OF DEPARTMENT**

**SEE APPENDIX 1**

1. **DIMENSIONS**

Responsible for the assessment and treatment of patients in some clinical specialities which may include – medical, orthopaedics, stroke rehabilitation, musculoskeletal outpatients, surgical (including intensive care) and care of the elderly/day hospital. The physiotherapist will rotate through these areas

No budgetary responsibilities except awareness of overall requirements

Supervises / delegates responsibility when working with the Rehabilitation Assistants or Technical Instructors, together with senior physiotherapists.

Services provided over 7 days

**5. KEY DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Undertake a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment of patients with a wide range of conditions and to provide a clinical diagnosis where appropriate.
2. Act independently to determine a treatment and intervention plan as part of a care package making agreed goals with the patient.
3. Act independently to implement, evaluate, treat and progress patient care to maximise rehabilitation potential.
4. Act independently to administer physiotherapy treatment appropriately using specific physical skills and provide specialised advice relevant to patient condition.
5. Liase with senior physiotherapists to gain support and direction in management of their caseload.
6. Work as part of a team to ensure effective communication and delivery of care. Liase and make recommendations to all relevant disciplines of staff to maximise care and promote multidisciplinary team working.
7. To take responsibility for equipment used or issued to patients ensuring that any faults are detected and reported.
8. Maintain treatment notes, fully recording all details within the episode of care.
9. To manage time effectively, prioritising individual patient caseload as necessary.
10. To participate in the risk management process ensuring safe, clinical, personal and organisational practice in line with current policies and procedures.
11. Participate in physiotherapy in-service training and clinical effectiveness programme, including participating in clinical audit.
12. To participate in Personal Development Review to promote personal and service development.
13. Work independently to provide physiotherapy on- call care to support delivery of the 24-hour service to acutely ill patients.
14. Assist in the supervision of undergraduate students and people on work experience/ placements.
15. Any other physiotherapy duties as required.
16. **SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT**

#### Systems

* Microsoft, creating simple spreadsheets for calculating stats; patient/doctor/MDT d/c or referral letters; PowerPoint for presentations to colleagues and Health Care Professionals; email for communication and internet for information and literature searches.
* Physio-tools used to provide computer printout of exercise programmes identified for individuals or groups of patients.
* Completion of patient records/ medical notes
* Completion of personal leave sheets and patient stats as required by the line manager.

#### Equipment

* **Hoists and mobility aids** – Arjo walkers, gutter frames, zimmers, crutches, quadropods, sticks and tilt tables.
* **Respiratory equipment**, ventilators, nebuliser, suction units, stethoscopes, nasal and oral airways.
* **Electrotherapy equipment** Ultrasound, TENS, interferential, short wave diathermy and continuous passive motion machine
* **Thermal Equipment**- Wax baths, cryotherapy.
* **Rehabilitation equipment**- Treadmill, exercycles, Swiss balls, parallel bars, balance boards, stepper machines, stairs, full range of small exercise equipment.
* **Orthotics and prosthetics** – splinting and pressure relieving ankle foot orthosis.
* Demonstrate competencies as per departmental policy and the understanding of electronic or mechanical equipment used in ICU / Orthopaedics and as part of Physiotherapy treatments.
* Maintain and ensure cleanliness as well as safety of equipment used for patient care.

1. **ASSIGNMENT AND REVIEW OF WORK**
   * Undertake and manage own caseload assigned by senior physiotherapist, assessing and deciding on applying the appropriate treatment for the patient. The physiotherapist can consult the senior physiotherapist daily.
   * Report unresolved issues to the Senior Physiotherapist or Manager.
   * Where appropriate liase with the multi-disciplinary team on deciding patient discharges dates. The senior physiotherapist will provide induction and then review of the therapist work through development review system – beginning, middle and end of the rotation.

**8. COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS**

**Patients**

* Provides and receives information occasionally of a complex and sensitive nature regarding assessment, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment. Barriers to understanding will occasionally be present e.g. intubated patients, stroke patients.
* Patients will have a range of medical problems and require the physiotherapist to utilise developed empathic, motivational and persuasive skills to facilitate rehabilitation both in an individual and group setting.

**Relatives / carers**

* Provide and receive information to relatives and carers who can occasionally display hostile and emotional responses.
* Teach a range of patient management strategies

**Physiotherapy Staff**

* Frequent communication with senior members of staff for guidance and advice.
* Delegate tasks to technical instructors and physiotherapy assistants
* Liase with both internal and external colleagues regarding patient transfer.

**Multidisciplinary team within the speciality**

* Discuss with MDT patient assessment findings, patient progress with treatment and suggest other professional input requirements
* Teach patient physiotherapy management strategies to optimise patient care.

**9a. PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THE JOB**

* Frequent and long duration of standing, sitting, walking, climbing stairs and at times having to maintain static positions e.g. supporting patients during therapeutic process.
* Physiotherapeutic techniques of specialist skill and precision and handling e.g. manipulation or neuro facilitation.
* Specialist moving and handling of patients to facilitate transfer requiring moderate physical effort e.g in/out of wheel chair.
* Moving and handling of specialised physiotherapy equipment e.g. continuous passive motion machine, tilt table and hoists which requires specific knowledge and physical effort.
* Use of keyboard skills – infrequent for short duration
* At times required to work in small, confined spaces in patient rooms
* The post holder may frequently (e.g. daily) be exposed to unpleasant working conditions during clinical duties. This may also involve body fluids e.g. blood, vomit, faeces or sputum.

**9b. MENTAL/EMOTIONAL DEMANDS OF THE JOB**

* Frequent long periods of concentration throughout the day, in order to assess and diagnose patients and progressing individual treatment programmes.
* Daily exposure to patients who may be in pain or in distress to encourage their participation in treatment.
* On occasion (on average, twice monthly) imparting unwelcome news regarding patient’s rehabilitation prospects to patients, relatives or carers.
* Coming to terms with adverse clinical outcomes or patient bereavement.
* Occasional exposure (e.g. at least once a month) to aggressive behaviour or verbal abuse.

**10. KNOWLEDGE, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED TO DO THE JOB**

### Essential Criteria

Degree/Diploma in Physiotherapy

Health Care Professions Council Registered Physiotherapist

Team worker

### Desirable Criteria

Good communication skills

Driving licence

**11. JOB DESCRIPTION AGREEMENT**

**Job Holder’s Signature:**

**Date:**

**Head of Department Signature:**

**Date:**

**APPENDIX 1**