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# **JOB DESCRIPTION**

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| 1. JOB IDENTIFICATION   **Job Title: Trainee Midwife/ Nurse Sonographer**  **Department(s): Obstetric and Gynaecology Ultrasound, NHS GG&C**  **Job Reference number (coded):** |
| 1. **JOB PURPOSE**   To undertake training to provide a high quality, efficient and effective diagnostic imaging service to the maternity unit by:   * + Learning to carry out a full range of early pregnancy obstetric and gynaecological ultrasound examinations and producing written reports which will be countersigned by qualified Sonographers. Provide direct care and facilitating patient management, seeking assistance when required. |

**3. ORGANISATIONAL POSITION**

Lead Midwife

Senior Charge Midwife

**Trainee Sonographer**

Auxiliuary support

Midwife Sonographer

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| **4. SCOPE AND RANGE**  Early pregnancy obstetric ultrasound imaging training within early pregnancy departments throughout Greater Glasgow and Clyde.  Train to become competent and qualified to provide a full range of early pregnancy support including clinical examinations and early pregnancy ultrasound scanning. |
| **5. MAIN DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES**   * To undertake and complete successfully a course in ultrasound scanning focussing on early pregnancy. * To learn to evaluate requests for ultrasound examination to ensure adequate clinical information available to enable correct selection of technique. * To learn to undertake, and independently report (written and verbal), the full range of obstetric ultrasound and gynaecological examinations, providing direct care, and aiding patient management by communicating findings, seeking advice when required. * To learn and become competent and qualified to identify problem pregnancies and abnormities, seeking assistance from senior sonographers when required. * To actively pursue, and maintain a personal record of Continuing Professional Development. * To participate in audit and Q.A. * To learn and become competent in accurate data input of patient data into computerised hospital information system. |

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| **6. SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT** Systems  * Access to Internet / intranet via duty room and library pc. * PNBS Database * Trakcare   Equipment   * Ultrasound machines of varying types from a range of manufacturers, including a variety of transducers. * Responsible for maintaining a high level of expertise in the operation of equipment, to ensure safe use in accordance with the ALARA principle. (As Low As Reasonably Achievable) * Adjustable height couches. * Wheelchairs and trolleys to move patients as required. * Gel warmers and Gestation Calculators. * Required to share responsibility for care of equipment. |
| **7. DECISIONS AND JUDGEMENTS**   * To learn and become competent and qualified to correlate information from request, patient, and previous reports, to decide most appropriate technique and measurements. e.g. Is Doppler required? * To learn and become competent and qualified in recognising and analysing sonographic appearances of normal and abnormal anatomy, blood flow etc; * To learn and become competent and qualified to interpret and analyse information gained from the examination, seeking advice when required, and being accountable for own professional actions. * To learn to and become competent and qualified to decide what information should be given to the patient, and exercising judgement as to when assistance is required. |
| **8. COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS**   * + Give explanation of procedure to patient, and gather relevant information from the patient by appropriate questioning / listening.   + To learn and become competent and qualified to provide a verbal report to the patient, when appropriate, to alleviate anxiety.   + To learn and become competent and qualified to communicate to the patient when problems, are encountered, and a second opinion is required. This occurs on a daily basis. Whilst gross abnormalities are rare, early pregnancy loss is very common. These problems are all highly distressing for the patient and emotionally draining for the trainee sonographer.   + To learn to and become competent to communicate general information to relatives, in keeping with the wishes of the patient.   + To learn to and become competent to communicate with other staff and departments, passing appropriate information, and consulting senior staff for advice when required. (e.g. When referral for other examinations, e.g. C.T.G. are indicated) |

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| **9. PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THE JOB**   * Ultrasound requires a high level of dexterity and co-ordination for manipulation of transducers and simultaneous skilled adjustment of controls to achieve optimum images. * The majority of the day is spent sitting with one arm outstretched whilst the other hand manipulates the controls. Frequent changes of position are required to avoid Work Related Upper Limb Disorders (A common problem for sonographers) * Must perform daily stretching exercise routine as part of H&S programme to reduce RSI * Requires good keyboard and computer skills. * Working with fluctuating light levels. (Lights dimmed whilst scanning) * Working continually in artificial light with no natural daylight. * Multi-tasking between widely differing examinations. * Frequent need for internal examinations, requiring sensitivity and discretion – (sometimes unpleasant). * Car driver desirable. | |
| **10. MOST CHALLENGING/DIFFICULT PARTS OF THE JOB**   * Concentrating on the image and making a diagnosis is very demanding. Image quality is sometimes poor and it may take considerable effort and skill to achieve optimum images. This is particularly onerous when the patient is anxious. * First diagnosis of fetal pathology can be alarming and careful consideration must be exercised in how to relay this to the patient, and to communicate the need for a second opinion. It is very stressful giving information regarding problems, especially when the diagnosis / prognosis is uncertain and further examinations / tests are required. This is a daily occurrence. * Diagnosis of fetal death in late gestation can be particularly devastating for all concerned. | |
| **11. KNOWLEDGE, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED TO DO THE JOB**   * RCM/N Registration or equivalent as per Professional background. * BSC Midwifery/Nursing or equivalent as per Professional background. * Minimum of 4 years clinical experience within current profession * Familiarity with, and adherence to;   + Hospital and departmental policies and protocols,   + Professional codes of practice. * Good knowledge of cross sectional anatomy. * Good keyboard and computer skills. | |
| **12. JOB DESCRIPTION AGREEMENT**  A separate job description will need to be signed off by each jobholder to whom the job description applies.  **Job Holder’s Signature:**  **Head of Department Signature:** | **Date:**  **Date:** |

Trainee Sonographer

Person Specification

* Enthusiastic, motivated, with a commitment to C.P.D.
* Good hand / eye co-ordination.
* Good communication skills, written and verbal. Post requires communication with patients, relatives and other health care professionals.
* Ability to communicate bad news with empathy and sensitivity.

(Communication with the patient often involves giving distressing and complex information regarding the results of the examination (e.g. Foetal death or abnormality)

* Team worker, capable of working independently, complying with departmental protocols and seeking advice when required.

REQUIREMENTS

* HCPC Registration or equivalent as per Professional background.
* D.C.R. or BSc in Radiography or equivalent as per Professional background.
* 4 years clinical experience.
* Familiarity with, and adherence to;

a. Hospital and departmental policies and protocols,

b. Professional codes of practice.

* Team worker, capable of working independently, complying with departmental protocols and seeking advice when required.
* Good IT knowledge.
* Willingness to participate in Q.A, Audit and Presentations.
* Car driver preferable.