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NHS Forth Valley

Job Description

1. **JOB DETAILS**

Job Title: Physiotherapist Specialist

AHP Care Group: Children’s Services, Pelvic Health Team

Department: Child and Pelvic Health Physiotherapy

Job Holder Reference: A-IR-AHP-020

No of Job Holders: 2

1. **JOB PURPOSE**

Provide direct clinical care in the field of pelvic health physiotherapy (& child health) which encompasses assessment, treatment, advice and management of patients in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

To assist senior staff in the supervision of junior physiotherapists.

1. **ORGANISATIONAL POSITION**

See appendix 1

1. **DIMENSIONS**

Provision of physiotherapy assessment and treatment to patients within the area of woman’s health.

Required to manage, supervise, organize and delegate the work to junior physiotherapists.

Reporting to senior/superintendent in charge of the speciality.

No budgetary responsibilities except awareness of overall requirements.

On-call and weekend work, working independently for on-call periods of 12 or 24 hours treating complex patients (e.g. ICU)

1. **KEY DUTIES / RESPONSIBILITIES**

* Undertake a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment of patients with a wide range of conditions and provide a clinical diagnosis using highly developed analytical and judgmental skills. The patient group will occasionally present with complex conditions e.g. incontinence patients / children with complex physical disabilities.
* Act independently to determine a treatment and intervention plan of physiotherapy, making agreed goals with the patient. Liaise with other healthcare staff in respect of patient treatment and progress.
* Act independently to implement, evaluate treat and progress patient care to maximise rehabilitation potential in both individual and group settings.
* Act independently to administer physiotherapy treatment appropriately using specialised physical skills and advice relevant to patient condition in both a one to one and class setting.
* Manage time effectively, prioritising patient caseload and in conjunction with the Band 7 ensure the effective time management of junior and assistant staff.
* To participate in the risk management process ensuring safe, clinical, personal and organisational practice in line with current policies and procedures.
* Comply with Health and Safety policy and professional standards ensuring safe and effective care for patients and others. Occasionally proposes changes to working practice/procedures.
* Participate in the education of junior staff, organise and participate in some elements of postgraduate training for all staff in the physiotherapy department.
* Participate in clinical effectiveness including clinical audit, in order to optimise patient care.
* Undertake any other physiotherapy duties, which may be assigned by a more senior physiotherapist to ensure an optimum service delivery.
* Work independently to provide physiotherapy on-call care to support delivery of the 24-hour service to acutely ill patients. Also, to provide a weekend service to allow timely discharge of patients with mobility problems.
* Assist in the supervision and clinical training of undergraduate students and people on work experience/placements.

1. **SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT**
   * Microsoft, creating simple spreadsheets for calculating stats, Powerpoint for presentations to colleagues and other healthcare professionals, e-mail 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 accurately
   * Completion of personal timesheets and patient stats as required by the line manager

###### EQUIPMENT

* **Women’s Health/Pelvic Health Equipment**
* **Mobility aids and Hoists:** e.g.gutter frames / zimmers / crutches / sticks / Gait Trainer / Posture walkers
* **Specialised seating** : seating systems / wheelchairs / specialised buggies
* **Other positional equipment**: e.g. sleepsystems / side lying boards / wedges
* **Rehab equipment:** parallel bars / therapy balls / rolls / balance boards/ hydrotherapy pool etc
* **Respiratory equipment:** ventilators / nebulisers / suction equipment/ PEP masks/ stethescopes
* **Orthotics:** e.g. AFO’s,/ insoles/ Spinal jackets / lycra garments/ back supports
* **Thermal Equipment:** heat packs / cryotherapy

Demonstrate competencies as per departmental policy and the understanding of electronic or mechanical equipment used 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**

* Independently manage own caseload in assessing and deciding on the appropriate treatment intervention for the patient.
* Assign and oversee work of junior staff and advise as appropriate.
* Report unresolved issues to the senior physiotherapist.
* Liaise with other healthcare professionals on deciding patient discharges.
* The senior physiotherapist / manager will provide induction and review of the therapists work through the appraisal system.
* On occasion undertake appraisals with junior staff.

1. **COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS**

Patients

* Provides and receives information occasionally of a complex and sensitive nature which at times may be conflicting, regarding assessment, diagnosis, prognosis and treatment to encourage compliance and aid in effective patient care.

Barriers to understanding will occasionally be present e.g. language.

* Patients will have a range of medical problems and require the physiotherapist to utilize developed empathic, motivational, persuasive and interpersonal skills to facilitate rehabilitation both in an individual and group setting.

Relatives / Carers

* Provides and receives information regarding complex and highly sensitive issues
* Teach a range of patient management strategies

Physiotherapy Staff

* Coach and develop staff in a specialist area
* Delegate tasks to junior physiotherapists.
* Regular communication with senior members of staff for guidance and advice.
* Network with appropriate external physiotherapy colleagues and others, in undertaking development work to ensure delivery of clinically effective care

Multidisciplinary team

* Teach patient physiotherapy management strategies to optimise patient care.
* Report patient findings, patient progress with treatment and suggest other professional input requirements.
* Liaise and advise MDT to increase knowledge relating to individual patients and specialist area; ensure patient management is maximised.

1. **PHYSICAL DEMANDS OF THE JOB**

* Specialist moving and handling and skilled facilitation of correct movement in patients
* Frequent and long duration of standing, sitting, kneeling, walking and climbing of stairs
* The post holder may frequently (daily) be exposed to unpleasant working conditions e.g. body fluids, sputum and vomit.
* At times required to work in small confined spaces in patient rooms.

Mental / Emotional Demands of the Job

* Frequent long periods of concentration required when assessing and treating patients throughout the day, in order to assess and diagnose patients and progressing individual treatment programmes.
* Frequent exposure to patients who may be in pain or distress to encourage their participation in treatment.
* Workloads priorities vary to meet service demands
* On occasion (on average, twice monthly) imparting unwelcome news to patients, relatives and carers regarding their rehabilitation prospects.
* Occasional interruptions throughout working day
* Communicating with distressed/ anxious/ worried patients and relatives
* On occasion treating terminally ill patients

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

### Essential

* Degree/ Diploma in Physiotherapy
* HPC registration
* Membership of the relevant Professional body (CSP)
* Minimum of 2 years Postgraduate experience, including experience in specific area.
* Relevant post graduate courses/ evidence of CPD in specific area
* Car Driver

#### Desirable

* Team worker
* Ability to work independently
* Supervisory and delegatory experience.

1. **JOB DESCRIPTION AGREEMENT**

**Job Holder’s Signature:**

**Date:**

**Head of Department Signature:**

**Date:**

## Appendix 1

#### Organisational Position

**Strategic Lead AHP**

**Managerial Responsibility**

**AHP Manager Children’s Services**

**Team/Service**

**Co-ordinator**

**Physiotherapy**

**Highly Specialist Physiotherapist**

**Band 7**

**Physiotherapist**

**( rotational)**

**Specialist Physiotherapist**

**Band 6**

**Physiotherapy Assistant**

**NHS FORTH VALLEY**

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**Job Title: Physiotherapist Band: 6**

**AHP Children’s Care Group: Pelvic Health Physiotherapy**

**Base: Forth Valley Royal Hospital/Stirling Community Hospital**

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| **ATTRIBUTES** | **ESSENTIAL** | **DESIRABLE** |
| **Skills/Abilities** | Reflective Practitioner  Competent Computer Skills  Good Time Management  Car driver | Car owner  Advanced computer skill and knowledge/use of patient administration systems |
| **Experience** | Range of post registration experience in physiotherapy  Able to evidence the ability to demonstrate they are competent to achieve the range of competencies outlined in the job descriptions and person spec  Evidence of continuing professional development, including attending suitable post graduate in-service courses and conferences.  Team worker and ability to work independently.  Have discrete pieces of work demonstrating service improvement | Specific experience within Women’s Health/Pelvic Health  Previous multi-agency working  MSK experience in assessing and treating back /pelvic pain. |
| **Inter-personal** | Good communication and delegation skills | Enhanced specialist communication methods |
| **Education** | Degree/Diploma in Physiotherapy | Specialist post graduate training and learning. |
| **Other** | Health & Care Professions Council Registered Physiotherapist | Member of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy |