



Springhill Hospice (Rochdale) JOB DESCRIPTION

Post:	Physiotherapist (Community Services)
Clinical Grade:	Hospice Scale Band 6 (pts 25-29)
Responsible to:	Community Services Manager
Accountable to:	Director of Clinical Services
Minimal qualifications:	Diploma/Degree in Physiotherapy

AIM

To work as an integral part of the multi-disciplinary clinical team in the provision of a high quality physiotherapy service to patients with life-limiting illnesses. As a member of the multi-disciplinary team the post holder will demonstrate a professional and proactive approach, providing physiotherapy clinical practice and advice, working closely with the Specialist Palliative Care multi-disciplinary team. The focus of the post is symptom control, rehabilitation and maintaining quality of life and independence within the specialist palliative care setting. Provision of physiotherapy to patients with specialist palliative care needs, including those with a highly complex presentation; patients may be suffering from malignant and non-malignant conditions.

PROFESSIONAL

- Address and provide palliative physiotherapy interventions to patients in a community setting and, where appropriate, within the inpatient unit and the Day Hospice unit.
- Proactively manage patients using palliative based assessments and interventions, offering support to patients and their carers to improve and optimise the patients quality of life dependent upon their need
- Utilise assessment skills such as history taking and chest auscultation to make clinical decisions utilising expert knowledge and clinical reasoning.
- Provide pharmacological and non-pharmacological breathlessness management intervention.
- Working collaboratively with the nursing team, assess moving and handling requirements for patients.
- Identify and evaluate the patient's long term and short term goals in liaison with the patient, carers and other members of the multi-disciplinary team.
- Produce an action plan for each individual patient, communicated and agreed with the patient, family and multi-disciplinary team.
- Work sensitively with each patient aiming to achieve their optimum level of independence.

- Contribute to the work of the multi-disciplinary clinical team, ensuring safe and effective care and discharge arrangements for the patient and his/her family.
- Assess complex care needs and co-ordinate a team approach to try and address these needs more effectively to support patients.
- Communication skills of explanation, persuasion, motivation, empathy, reassurance and empowerment will be used in a variety of patients to convey highly sensitive and complex information.
- Act as a resource and adviser promoting evidence based practice and best management of palliative physiotherapy care across the organisation, providing a community wide service. Provide specialist advice for GPs, Practice Nurses, Nurse Practitioners and other community health workers across the borough.
- Ensure close communication, liaison and joint working with the members of the clinical team within the Hospice.
- Complete all required documentation in line with Hospice policy, evaluating action plans, where appropriate and maintaining a comprehensive record of assessment and interventions in relation to provision of treatment and outcomes.
- Effectively communicate any changes in the patient's condition to other members of the Hospice clinical team, as appropriate.
- In liaison with the patient's named nurse, assist in the completion of appropriate documentation in relation to Community Healthcare funding for identified patients.
- In liaison with the patient's named nurse, and Assistant Practitioner (rehabilitation), co-ordinate the provision of specialised interventions in order to rehabilitate and maintain vulnerable clients being discharged from the Hospice back into the community to maximise their personal independence and quality of life.
- To attend and participate, where appropriate, in case conferences relating to patient discharge planning.
- To attend and participate in weekly Hospice multi-disciplinary team meetings as a core member.
- To ensure that patient records are maintained and reports produced in accordance with both statutory and Hospice requirements.
- Uphold the Chartered Society of Physiotherapists and Health and Care Professions Council Code of Conduct at all times to ensure the safety of clients and staff ensuring that professional registration is up to date in a timely manner
- To be involved in audit and evaluation of patient outcomes in relation to role.
- To be aware of the need to treat patients as individuals and maintain patients' confidentiality at all times.

EDUCATION

- Ensure attendance at all mandatory training and professional development sessions required by Springhill hospice.
- Attend courses/workshops/study days etc in relation to area of practice.

- Contribute to the training and development of other staff within the Hospice and to provide supervision and support for all learner grades of staff including external students on placement.
- Provide specialist advice, teaching and training to others (both in the hospice and externally) about the role of the physiotherapist and physiotherapy in Palliative Care through talks, presentations, lectures, demonstrations etc.
- Take responsibility for identifying own personal and professional development requirements and communicating these to the line manager.
- Maintain a working professional portfolio, providing evidence of self-development.
- Participate in individual performance review and the use of personal development plan.

PERSONNEL

- Ensure compliance with Springhill Hospice policies and procedures at all times.
- To be aware of individual specific responsibilities in respect of the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults, in relation to role.
- Attend and participate in all relevant meetings, both within the Hospice and externally, as appropriate and as agreed with line manager.
- Ensure continued support and encouragement to colleagues within the clinical team and the wider Hospice team at all times.
- Assume an active role in maintaining competency and self-development by ensuring current knowledge of trends and developments in working practice, attending meetings/courses as required.
- Be responsible for the day-to-day planning and organisation of own workload including making decisions about which areas to prioritise

THIS POST IS SUBJECT TO FLEXIBLE ROSTERING (ANNUALISED HOURS)

Springhill Hospice is a registered charity and all members of staff are expected to participate in fundraising activities.

Springhill Hospice is an equal opportunities employer and has a No Smoking Policy.

Some posts are subject to a Disclosure and Barring service background check.

For Internal Use Only

The contents of this Job Description have been discussed and agreed with my Line Manager

Signature of Postholder: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Line Manager: _____

Date: _____

