

JOB DESCRIPTION

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| **JOB DETAILS** | |
| **Job Title** | Clinical Nurse Specialist Lead - Lymphoedema Services (North & East) |
| **Reports to** | Senior Operations Manager & Professional Lead for Planned Care |
| **Band** | 7 |
| **Department/Directorate** | Community Care Group |

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| **JOB PURPOSE** |
| The post holder will provide clinical leadership, development and governance across North and East Devon and supporting the alignment of lymphoedema services working with the professional lead and senior operations manager to lead and develop the service in line with patient need and trust wide developments and to help provide an equitable service across the Trust.  The role will be key in taking strategic responsibility for leading the ongoing development of the Lymphoedema Service across North and East Devon ensuring there is a comprehensive provision of specialist high quality individual patient focused lymphoedema, complex chronic oedema and lipoedema care to include:   * The assessment, planning, delivery and evaluation of care for patients at risk of lymphoedema and patients with mild, moderate and complicated chronic oedema, lymphoedema including related to advances malignancy and lipoedema. * To enhance clinical excellence within this specialty. * To support and educate patients, health and social care professionals about chronic oedema, lymphoedema / lipoedema and the management. * The delivery of flexible working in order to maintain optimal service provision.   This post holder will act as an expert resource for both nursing teams and medical staff by providing advice, support and education through clinical practice evidence-based development.  There will be close liaison and appropriate referral between all relevant departments, the lead clinician and other services, including those provided by community teams.  The post holder will develop and sustain partnership working with individual groups, communities and agencies.  Facilitate the planning and delivery of care programmes to address patient needs and develop/improve the service. |
| **KEY RESULT AREAS / PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** |
| The Clinical Nurse Specialistwill be based at Royal Devon University Healthcare Trust working across the Northern and Eastern footprint and will be responsible for:   * Supporting the service to co-ordinate the care throughout the patient’s pathway whilst under the care of the specialist team, from diagnosis through treatment and follow-up care. * The post holder will be a key member of, actively participate in, and work within the guidelines of the Multi-Disciplinary Team where appropriate, as a key worker for patients with the specialist diagnosis. * To provide appropriate written information for patients, relatives and hospital staff. * The post holder will fulfil all tasks and work as part of a team.To meet the needs of the service, the post holder may be required to work in other areas as appropriate as directed by the line manager. * To have a comprehensive understanding of chronic oedema, lymphoedema and lipoedema including the cause and development and signed and symptoms. * To keep up to date in current management through relevant research and evidence based practice, taking responsibility and accountability for effective care delivery. * To undertake holistic patient assessments, forming differential diagnoses and establishing patient needs for those with complex chronic oedema, mild, moderate and complex lymphoedema and lipoedema, directing specialist care. * To provide expert specialist support, advice and information to patients, carers, health and social care professionals for those at risk of lymphoedema development and those with established complicated chronic oedema, lymphoedema and lipoedema. * To lead the delivery of evidence based high standard individualised patient centred treatment and care. * To work with patients to develop individual care plans to address goals and promote self- management. * To perform Doppler and circulatory assessments to establish suitability for compression therapy. * To undertake limb volume measurements and measure for compression garments / devices for stable and unstable and uncomplicated and complicated chronic oedema, lymphoedema and lipoedema. * To prescribe and undertake treatments or give advice to include skincare, wound-care, exercise, medical taping, compression garments and Velcro devices, manual lymphatic drainage, simple lymphatic drainage, intermittent pneumatic compression, Physiotouch, low level light therapy, weight management and compression bandaging. * To reassess and review care provision in order to monitor progress and evaluate the effectiveness of treatment regimes. * To liaise with appropriate members of the multi-disciplinary and wider healthcare team to ensure seamless co-ordination and continuity of care. * To maintain accurate clinical records. * To work strategically to align Lymphoedema services across North and East so that there is continuity and equity for patients and service provision. |
| **KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS** |
| The post holder is required to deal effectively with staff of all levels throughout the Trust as and when they encounter on a day to day basis. In addition, the post holder will deal with the wider healthcare community, external organisations and the public. This will include verbal, written and electronic media.  Of particular importance are working relationships with:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Internal to the Trust** | **External to the Trust** | | * Patients and carers * Lymphoedema specialists * Health and Social Care Manager * South West Lymphoedema Nurses / Therapists * Acute and Community Hospital staff * Social Care Teams * Pharmacists | * Commissioners * Hospices * GPs and Primary Care Teams * Nursing and residential home staff * Volunteer services | |
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| **ORGANISATIONAL CHART** |
| Senior Operations Manager  Professional Lead for Planned Care  Clinical Nurse Specialist Lymphoedema Services |
| **FREEDOM TO ACT** |
| To work within the nursing and medical teams and contribute to decisions about patient care.  Be professionally accountable for all aspects of own work, including the management of patients in their care.  To work autonomously be able to provide expert advice to patient and families in relation to patient condition and specialist treatments and services in line with the Trust and service policy.  The post holder will work with the Professional Lead for Planned Care and Senior Operations manager and support development of the service in line with Trust Strategic planning.  Works within individual competencies and aware of limitations.  Able to identify and manage untoward incidents, risk factors, complaints and clinical emergencies and act by cascading to the appropriate person and/ or through the appropriate system. |
| **COMMUNICATION/ RELATIONSHIP SKILLS** |
| Provide and receive highly complex and highly sensitive information. Communicates very sensitive, complex condition related information to patients, relatives offering empathy and reassurance.  To communicate effectively between departments, wards and Trusts to ensure patients journey is seamless.  To work in partnership with nurses and other health professionals to address people’s health needs through planning and delivering interventions which are based on best practice and clinical judgement |
| **ANALYTICAL/ JUDGEMENTAL SKILLS** |
| Complex facts or situations requiring analysis, interpretation, comparison of a range of options. Requires skills for assessing and interpreting specialist acute and other patient conditions and taking appropriate actions, this may include non-medical prescribing.  To monitor and review the effectiveness of interventions with the patient and colleagues and modify this to meet changing needs and established goals of care. |
| **PLANNING / ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS** |
| Plan, organise complex activities, programmes requiring formulation and adjustment.  To receive direct referrals within the speciality and to provide expert assessment of patient’s needs.  To develop and provide a co-ordinated specialist service to patients with the relevant diagnosis and their carers and to have direct clinical involvement in complex care.  To support and prevent admission for the patient with the relevant diagnosis and support the coordination of complex discharges for patients with the relevant diagnosis that have been admitted.  Plan & organise day-to-day service provision. |
| **PATIENT / CLIENT CARE** |
| To support patients in meeting their own health and wellbeing through providing expert information, advice and support.  To assess patients and their complex needs and those of their families and plan, implement and evaluate appropriate programmes of care – this will include communicating highly sensitive information about diagnosis, treatment options and issues surrounding palliative care and bereavement.  To provide emotional, psychological and practical support to the patient and their family/carer throughout their pathway and to facilitate communication between patients, families and professionals  To recognise ethical dilemmas relating to care and act as the patient/relative’s advocate when required  To develop care pathways for patients with the relevant diagnosis |
| **POLICY/ SERVICE DEVELOPMENT** |
| To develop specialist nurse led care where appropriate, in line with National guidance.  To supervise/instruct qualified and unqualified members of the nursing team as appropriate.    To act as an expert resource to others in developing and improving specialist knowledge and skills in specialist clinical practice, through acting as an assessor, facilitator and teaching groups of staff as required.  To develop evidence-based standards, policies and guidelines at a local network and national level to improve the practice of own and other professions.  To evaluate clinical effectiveness within the speciality, identifying poor quality and a plan for quality improvement and produce an annual report.  Act as facilitator in developing clinical practice and promoting changes in service that meet National Standards – both clinical and operational.  To participate in developing the specialist service strategy and shared vision of the service and work with the multi-disciplinary team, organisation and external agencies to achieve this.  To employ effective decision-making skills to address complex issues and use effective change management skills to implement these.  To use effective prioritisation, problem solving and delegation skills to manage time effectively.  To establish networks with other specialists at a local, national and international level, to exchange and enhance knowledge and expertise.  To maintain a peer network of support, information and learning with other nurse specialists within the organisation. |
| **FINANCIAL/ PHYSICAL RESOURCES** |
| The post holder has a personal duty of care in relation to equipment and resources.  The post holder will work within a defined day to day operational budget. Ensuring that any projects undertaken are established and managed in a financially responsible manner. |
| **HUMAN RESOURCES** |
| Day to day management of Nurse Specialists, Support Nurses and administrative staff.  To promote a learning environment through identifying opportunities and seeking resources required for own and others learning.  To provide specialist input to post-registration courses and professional development programmes.  To reflect on own practice through clinical supervision/mentorship and to act as a clinical supervisor/mentor to others.  To act as a specialist resource to advice and support healthcare professionals and others involved in the delivery of care to patients, their families and carers.  To support and facilitate the development of an education strategy which ensures that all those involved in the management of patients with a relevant diagnosis are able to deliver the highest standards of care. |
| **INFORMATION RESOURCES** |
| To document all patient contacts in patient record, as per Trust Documentation Policy.  To be competent and have an expert knowledge of using the electronic healthcare records systems, accessing data to support your services and to use dashboards to evidence the service’s outcomes  To be involved in the Audit Programme relevant to the service.  The post holder will use a wide range of computer systems e.g. word, excel and PowerPoint to create reports, documents and presentations. The post holder will be responsible for sourcing and gathering information to produce presentations, informative reports, briefings and papers for meetings. |
| **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT** |
| To maintain own and others’ awareness of relevant research evidence related to the speciality and work with others in applying this to practice.  To identify areas of potential research relating to the speciality and to participate in relevant research activities.  To participate and lead in local and national research and audit projects and service evaluation as requested in order to improve standards of patient care on a regular basis and provide feedback to relevant groups  To ensure the Trust provides accurate clinical data to national data collection programmes relevant to the service. |
| **PHYSICAL SKILLS** |
| The role will have a combination of sitting, standing and walking with occasional moderate effort for several short periods involving sitting at a VDU for long periods of time.  High degree of competence and dexterity in practical Nursing skills, providing a supporting role with nursing assessments and within the lymphoedema clinics to include:   * Sitting, standing, walking, bending and arm movement with resistant push / pull requiring strength and co-ordination. * Ability to undertake manual handling and movement tasks – sit to stand, transfers, positioning of limbs, compression garment / device application and removal. |
| **PHYSICAL EFFORT** |
| * See physical skills above. * Level of fitness for ability to perform tasks in a timely manner. * Treatment may be required whilst working in a confined space with restricted positions. * Assisting and providing treatment for patients with a BMI of >30 and with restricted mobility. * Ability to travel to other locations and meet time restrictions. |
| **MENTAL EFFORT** |
| Ability to carry a caseload of clients and formulate effective treatment programmes to cure or alleviate symptoms.  Actively participate in strategic service planning & development.  The post holder will require resilience to deliver specialist nursing care in at time, stressful and emotional demanding environments. Requirement to regularly concentrate to deliver and manage varied priorities and demands of liaising with a wide range of people across different organisations whilst also providing senior support to junior members of nursing staff.  The work pattern is unpredictable and subject to frequent interruption. |
| **EMOTIONAL EFFORT** |
| Work with patients/service users and carers who have a poor/life limiting prognosis, including the communication of distressing news on a day to day basis.  Work with patients in the aftermath of bad news.  Work with patients with mental health problems or occasional challenging behaviour.  Talk to relatives following a death.  The post holder will respond to concerns and questions from a wide range of people who may be anxious and distressed relating to their condition and treatment.  Ability to adapt to an unpredictable workload.  High level of mental effort when managing rosters and staffing concerns.  Provide leadership and support to nursing team and deal with poor performance.  Managing conflict in the workplace and assist in dealing with crises/problems/ difficult circumstances within department teams / individuals.  Dealing with complaints and patient feedback.  Frequent exposure to distressing or emotional circumstances. |
| **WORKING CONDITIONS** |
| Occasional working with hazardous substances (cytotoxic drugs, bodily waste and fluids) when in clinical setting.  Occasional aggressive behaviour when dealing with face to face complaints.  Regular use of VDU. |
| **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES** |
| Take part in regular performance appraisal.  Undertake any training required in order to maintain competency including mandatory training, eg Manual Handling.  Contribute to and work within a safe working environment.  You are expected to comply with Trust Infection Control Policies and conduct him/herself at all times in such a manner as to minimise the risk of healthcare associated infection.  As an employee of the Trust, it is a contractual duty that you abide by any relevant code of professional conduct and/or practice applicable to you. A breach of this requirement may result in action being taken against you (in accordance with the Trust’s disciplinary policy) up to and including dismissal.  You must also take responsibility for your workplace health and wellbeing:   * When required, gain support from Occupational Health, Human Resources or other sources. * Familiarise yourself with the health and wellbeing support available from policies and / or Occupational Health. * Follow the Trust’s health and wellbeing vision of healthy body, healthy mind, healthy you. * Undertake a Display Screen Equipment assessment (DSE) if appropriate to role. |
| **DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY** |
| This post has been identified as involving access to vulnerable adults and / or children and in line with Trust policy successful applicants will be required to undertake a Disclosure & Barring Service Disclosure Check. |
| **GENERAL** |
| This is a description of the job as it is now. We periodically examine employees' job descriptions and update them to ensure that they reflect the job as it is then being performed, or to incorporate any changes being proposed. This procedure is conducted by the manager in consultation with the jobholder. You will, therefore, be expected to participate fully in such discussions. We aim to reach agreement on reasonable changes, but if agreement is not possible, we reserve the right to insist on changes to your job description after consultation with you.  Everyone within the Trust has a responsibility for, and is committed to, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable adults, children and young people and for ensuring that they are protected from harm, ensuring that the Trusts Child Protection and Safeguarding Adult policies and procedures are promoted and adhered to by all members of staff.  At the Royal Devon, we are committed to reducing our carbon emissions and minimising the impact of healthcare on the environment, as outlined in our Green Plan available on our website. We actively promote sustainable practices and encourage colleagues to explore and implement greener ways of working within their roles. |

PERSON SPECIFICATION

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| **Job Title** | Clinical Nurse Specialist – Lymphoedema Services (North & East) |

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| **Requirements** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **QUALIFICATION/ SPECIAL TRAINING**  Registered Nurse  Post-registration qualification at Masters level in specialist field or working towards and / or significant experience.  Formal qualification in teaching of adults  Formal qualification in Non-medical prescribing  Advanced Communication course, or willing to participate in training  Degree in relevant discipline or willing to work towards.  Competent in the physical examination of patients including assessment, history taking, venepuncture and cannulation | E  E  E  E  E  E  E |  |
| **KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS**  Significant experience in specialism  Extensive experience in care of patients in the speciality  Experience of managing service provision and the supervision and managing of staff  Ability to represent the department at meetings of internal, local, regional and national bodies and institutions  Competent in the delivery of medications both orally and IV | E  E  E  E  E |  |
| **EXPERIENCE**  Able to manage and conduct nurse-led clinics  Able to manage and control research projects  Counselling skills  IT competence in the usual applications – database, spread sheet and presentation software etc  High level of presentation skills and experience of public speaking | E  E  E  E  E |  |
| **PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES**  Good interpersonal skills  Good communication skills  Ability to be empathetic  Ability to handle difficult or emotional situations  Excellent organisational skills  Motivation  Ability to adapt and change to meet the needs of the service  Able to work as a team member | E  E  E  E  E  E  E |  |
| **OTHER REQUIREMENTS**  The post holder must demonstrate a positive commitment to uphold diversity and equality policies approved by the Trust.  Ability to travel to other locations as required | E  E |  |

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|  | | **FREQUENCY**  **(Rare/ Occasional/ Moderate/ Frequent)** | | | |
| **WORKING CONDITIONS/HAZARDS** | | **R** | **O** | **M** | **F** |
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| **Hazards/ Risks requiring Immunisation Screening** | |  |  |  |  |
| Laboratory specimens | Y |  | X |  |  |
| Contact with patients | Y |  |  |  | X |
| Exposure Prone Procedures | N |  |  |  |  |
| Blood/body fluids | Y |  | X |  |  |
| Laboratory specimens | Y |  | X |  |  |
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| **Hazard/Risks requiring Respiratory Health Surveillance** |  |  |  |  |  |
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| Solvents (e.g. toluene, xylene, white spirit, acetone, formaldehyde and ethyl acetate) | N |  |  |  |  |
| Respiratory sensitisers (e.g isocyanates) | N |  |  |  |  |
| Chlorine based cleaning solutions  (e.g. Chlorclean, Actichlor, Tristel) | N |  |  |  |  |
| Animals | N |  |  |  |  |
| Cytotoxic drugs | N |  |  |  |  |
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| **Risks requiring Other Health Surveillance** | |  |  |  |  |
| Radiation (>6mSv) | N |  |  |  |  |
| Laser (Class 3R, 3B, 4) | N |  |  |  |  |
| Dusty environment (>4mg/m3) | N |  |  |  |  |
| Noise (over 80dBA) | N |  |  |  |  |
| Hand held vibration tools (=>2.5 m/s2) | N |  |  |  |  |
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| **Other General Hazards/ Risks** | |  |  |  |  |
| VDU use ( > 1 hour daily) | Y |  |  |  | X |
| Heavy manual handling (>10kg) | Y |  | X |  |  |
| Driving | Y |  | X |  |  |
| Food handling | N |  |  |  |  |
| Night working | N |  |  |  |  |
| Electrical work | N |  |  |  |  |
| Physical Effort | Y |  |  | X |  |
| Mental Effort | Y |  |  |  | X |
| Emotional Effort | Y |  |  |  | X |
| Working in isolation | Y |  |  |  |  |
| Challenging behaviour | Y |  | X |  |  |