

JOB DESCRIPTION

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| **JOB DETAILS** | |
| **Job Title** | Ophthalmology Administration Assistant |
| **Reports to** | Failsafe and Administration Lead |
| **Band** | Band 2 |
| **Department/Directorate** | Ophthalmology |

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| **JOB PURPOSE** |
| To provide administrative support to the operational team which may include typing documents, retrieving and preparing patient records, filing and entering information onto computer systems in accordance with Trust policies.  The post holder will be the first point of contact for clients to the establishment; this will include dealing with routine queries and providing information to patients', relatives and staff either face to face or over the phone.  The post holder will be providing reception cover for Ophthalmology clinics held in the Exmoor Unit and Eye Clinic. This specialist Ophthalmic area runs clinics for Diabetes, Wet Age Related Macular Degeneration (WAMD), Cataract, Glaucoma, Medical Retina and Surgical Retina. The post holder will be required to book appointments, answer patient queries face to face and over the telephone, filing patient records and provide general administration duties as required. The post holder may also be required to provide reception cover in our other community Ophthalmology departments which are based in South Molton and Bideford.  The post holder will be responsible for co-ordinating and undertaking the full range of administration and booking processes for Ophthalmology in accordance with Patient Access Policy and Trust standards.  The Administrative Assistant will be based in the acute hospital and will provide administrative support to the Ophthalmology Department.  The post holder will fulfil all administration 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 administrative areas as appropriate as directed by the line manager. |
| **KEY RESULT AREAS/PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** |
| * Meeting and greeting patients and visitors to the department. * Checking in patients that are attending their appointments. * Answering the telephone and retrieving messages. * Dealing with patient queries. * Booking appointments. * Reconciling clinic outcomes. * Filling vacant slots. * Filing patient records. * Preparing patients notes for clinic. * Photocopying, printing and scanning. * Liaising with other hospital departments and external providers. * Full and accurate use of EPIC and other Microsoft systems. * Full and accurate use of IFit. * Contribute to service improvements and other projects under the direction of the Failsafe and Administration Leads. * Participate in Team meetings. |
| **KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS** |
| Area of Responsibility:  Key working relationships include Ophthalmology Failsafe Officers, Admin & Clerical Officers, Reception Staff, Consultants, Doctors and Nurses, Imaging team, Orthoptists, Optometrists and Secretaries. The post holder is required to deal effectively with staff of all levels throughout the Trust, 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** | | * Chief Executive | * Community Healthcare Providers | | * Associate Director of Operations Planned Care | * GP Surgeries | | * Group Manager | * The General Public | | * Service Manager Outpatients * Failsafe and Administration Leads * Reception Staff * Ophthalmology Booking Administrators * Other Clinical Booking Co-ordinators within the Trust. |  | |

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| **ORGANISATIONAL CHART** |
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| **FREEDOM TO ACT** |
| The post holder is guided by Standard Operational Procedures and will organise own workload on a day to day basis and work within Trust policies and procedures. Use initiative to deal with routine matters and refer more complex queries to Failsafe and Administration Leads. |
| **COMMUNICATION/RELATIONSHIP SKILLS** |
| The post holder will be required to adhere to the organisations standards of customer care when communicating with a range of clients relating to appointments.  For example:   * Receiving enquiries about appointments, taking messages and ensuring these are passed on to the correct person or acted on appropriately. * Daily use of core IT programmes, EPIC, Excel and occasional use of EPRO * Maintenance of e-mail enquiries   To deal with staff, clients and partner agency staff in a confidential and sensitive manner, this could be face to face or over the phone. The post holder may also be required to diffuse potential aggression from members of the public.  The post holder will be expected to behave in accordance with the Trust's values of demonstrating compassion, striving for excellence, respecting diversity, acting with integrity and to listen and support others adhering to the trusts confidentiality policy. |
| **ANALYTICAL/JUDGEMENTAL SKILLS** |
| * Assess and prioritise verbal, electronic and written information. Assist as far as possible in non-medical enquiries ensuring that all non-routine and medical enquiries are referred to the appropriate person. Make judgements on facts or situations, some of which require analysis, such as resolving appointment and booking issues. * Communicate general issues and those of concern to a senior member of staff and use initiative to escalate or resolve straight forward issues in relation to the booking/cancellations of clinics. * Use initiative and prioritise own workload on a day to day basis. * Be able to assess and prioritise verbal, electronic and written information. |
| **PLANNING/ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS** |
| The post holder is required to deliver day to day activities and plan straightforward tasks e.g. amendments to bookings. The post holder will be responsible for organising and managing their own work load. |
| **PATIENT/CLIENT CARE** |
| The post holder is required to put the patient, as the first priority, at the centre of all activities. The post holder will have regular contact with patients/clients by phone and will provide non-medical information and advice to patients and carers if requested. |
| **POLICY/SERVICE DEVELOPMENT** |
| To adhere to Trust policies and contribute to the continuous improvement in the efficiency and effectiveness of the service provided to clients by attending and participating in meetings as necessary. |
| **FINANCIAL/PHYSICAL RESOURCES** |
| To monitor stock levels of stationery, receive deliveries and report maintenance faults to their line manager. To ensure the efficient and effective use of all resources used within the course of one’s own duties, maintaining an awareness of the financial impact of inappropriate use. |
| **HUMAN RESOURCES** |
| Maintain and update own training relevant to post. Provide on the job training for new staff and work experience students, taking an active part in the development review of own work, suggesting areas for learning and development in the coming year. |
| **INFORMATION RESOURCES** |
| Daily use of IT programmes relevant to the department to process and store information. Confidence with the use of EPIC and updating any patient comments. Responsible for maintaining patient data. |
| **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT** |
| Comply with Trust’s requirements and undertake surveys as necessary to own work. |
| **PHYSICAL SKILLS** |
| * Advanced Keyboard Skills * Inputting of data accuracy and in accordance with the Trust’s Policy on Data Handling. |
| **PHYSICAL EFFORT** |
| Frequent requirement to sit in a restricted position at display screen equipment for the majority of the working day.  The post holder will undertake filing on a daily basis and complete photocopying when required.  The post holder may be required to exert light physical effort (loads of not more than 5kg.) on an occasional basis for several short periods during the shift. |
| **MENTAL EFFORT** |
| Will be required to maintain concentration for long periods during the working day.  The post holder will be expected to provide cover for other administration and clerical staff during busy periods, including cover due to sickness absence and annual leave. This may require the post holder to involve travelling and working in other areas within the Trust.  The work pattern will be predictable and there will be an occasional requirement for concentration for data entry.  Maintain accurate advance keyboard skills with efficiency with constant interruptions. |
| **EMOTIONAL EFFORT** |
| Occasionally manage difficult situations, which may arise with abusive clients and telephone callers, of which may need to be referred to a senior member of staff.  There will be the occasional indirect exposure to distressing and sensitive information whilst maintaining confidentiality in accordance with Trust Policy. |
| **WORKING CONDITIONS** |
| Use display screen equipment for substantial proportion of working day. |
| **OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES** |
| Take part in regular performance appraisal.  Undertake any training required in order to maintain competency including mandatory training, e.g. 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 (DES) if appropriate to role. |
| **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.  All employees must demonstrate a positive attitude to Trust equality policies and Equality Scheme. Employees must not discriminate on the grounds of sex, colour, race, ethnic or national beliefs, marital status, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief and will treat patients, colleagues and members of the public with dignity and respect.  We are committed to serving our community. We aim to co-ordinate our services with secondary and acute care. We aim to make all our services exemplary in both clinical and operational aspects. We will show leadership in identifying healthcare needs to which we can respond and in determining the most cost-effective way of doing so. We will share our knowledge with neighbouring healthcare agencies and professionals. We recruit competent staff that we support in maintaining and extending their skills in accordance with the needs of the people we serve. We will pay staff fairly and recognise the whole staff’s commitment to meeting the needs of our patients. The Trust operates a 'non-smoking' policy. Employees are not able to smoke anywhere within the premises of the Trust or when outside on official business.  The employer will take all reasonably practical steps to ensure your health, safety and welfare while at work. You must familiarise yourself with the employer's Health & Safety policy, and its safety and fire rules. It is your legal duty to take care for your own health and safety as well as that of your colleagues.  Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust continue to develop our long standing partnership with a view to becoming a single integrated organisation across Eastern and Northern Devon. Working together gives us the opportunity to offer unique and varied careers across our services combining the RD&E’s track record of excellence in research, teaching and links to the university with NDHT’s innovation and adaptability.  T*his is* |

PERSON SPECIFICATION

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| **Job Title** | Ophthalmology Administration Assistant |

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| **Requirements** | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **QUALIFICATION/ SPECIAL TRAINING**  Good Standard of Education  NVQ 2 Business Administration or Customer Care or equivalent qualification / experience  Relevant Keyboard qualification i.e: ECDL or RSA II or proven experience |      |  |
| **KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS**  Effective interpersonal, organisational and communication skills  Ability to prioritise and manage own workload within a busy environment  Ability to delegate tasks as necessary  IT/Keyboard skills and computer literate |        |  |
| **EXPERIENCE**  Proven clerical/administrative experience within customer care environment or similar  Previous NHS/Social Services experience  Experience of Ophthalmology administration or eye department environment. |  |    |
| **PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES**  Reliability and flexibility, able to contribute to changing demands of the service.  Willing to undertake training relevant to the post.  Ability to work independently, and within a team  Ability to demonstrate a diplomatic caring attitude whilst maintaining confidentiality.  Ability to work under pressure with conflicting demands |          |  |
| **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. |    |  |

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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 | N |  |  |  |  |
| Contact with patients | N |  |  |  |  |
| Exposure Prone Procedures | N |  |  |  |  |
| Blood/body fluids | N |  |  |  |  |
| Laboratory specimens | N |  |  |  |  |
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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 |  |  |  |  |
| Heavy manual handling (>10kg) | Y |  |  |  |  |
| Driving | N |  |  |  |  |
| Food handling | N |  |  |  |  |
| Night working | N |  |  |  |  |
| Electrical work | N |  |  |  |  |
| Physical Effort | N |  |  |  |  |
| Mental Effort | Y |  |  |  |  |
| Emotional Effort | Y |  |  |  |  |
| Working in isolation | N |  |  |  |  |
| Challenging behaviour | Y |  |  |  |  |