

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB DETAILS	
Job Title	Advanced Practitioner Therapist (Physiotherapist in Parkinson's)
Reports to	Divisional Matron
Band	7
Department/Directorate	Neurology/Medicine

JOB PURPOSE
<p>Provide highly specialist assessment, diagnosis, treatment and advice to patients and their carers. The specialist area is Parkinson's Disease and includes a wide range of acute and chronic cases, some having highly complex presentations.</p> <p>Lead the clinical specialty providing leadership, development and governance in relation to the clinical area and supporting other clinicians regarding patient treatment and management.</p> <p>Be part of an interdependent, multidisciplinary team ensuring that therapy input is integrated into the patient's overall care plan.</p> <p>Work with the 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.</p> <p>Context: The funding for this post has been pump-primed by Parkinson's UK to codesign pathways with stakeholders to transform the service provided to Parkinson's patients accessing Northern services, to deliver a proactive and preventative model, facilitating support through the disease course, to improve patient outcomes and experience.</p> <p>The post-holder will provide clinical expertise, utilising standardised quantitative and qualitative assessments limiting the need for direct consultant review. They will take a strategic overview of the community Parkinson's pathways, act as a catalyst for service redesign and development, and alongside specialist nurse colleagues, oversee the development and delivery of education and training programs for the wider MDT. The role includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing newly diagnosed group education and exercise sessions, to help instil confidence in condition management from the outset, through providing: advice and education about the condition, symptoms and management; peer and emotional support for patients and their significant others; facilitate behaviour change towards embedding exercise for long-term management; and links to local support networks. • Reducing unplanned admissions through educating and upskilling community health and social care teams to support people with Parkinson's; working with community matrons to proactively identify, facilitate community monitoring and case manage people at risk of deterioration and hospital admission; supporting and educating patients to proactively manage their condition and encourage connecting with local support networks; promoting tailored increased physical activity to reduce disease progression and minimise risks associated with a sedentary lifestyle. An enhanced Parkinson's CNS community/outpatient service in other trusts, has been found to reduce readmissions by 15%. • Providing training and education to community and inpatient teams regarding Parkinson's and its management.

- Improving RTT status and consultant clinic capacity through delivering outpatient and community clinics to provide timely follow-up, including review of symptoms and management, anticipatory care planning, and routine monitoring of blood pressure, bone health, weight, and salivary management.
- Reducing waiting times through an increase in patients being reviewed on a six to twelve monthly basis, by the appropriate specialist healthcare professional, at the right time, in the right place, in line with national guidance.
- Assessing and reviewing patients with Parkinson's Plus, working in conjunction with the community services to provide seamless care.
- Supporting provision of a dedicated, single point of contact telephone line accessible to patients, carers and professionals throughout the local healthcare system, responding to contacts within 2 working days.
- Developing a case for the use of PKG monitoring to better inform treatment effect and drug optimisation.
- Completing apomorphine therapy trials, as appropriate for patients be considered for deep brain stimulation, prior to being seen in Bristol, improving efficiency of the pathway and use of tertiary centre resources.
- Participating in periodic MDT case reviews of all people with new diagnoses within 3 months – ensuring that appropriate post-diagnostic support, monitoring and follow up is in place. Oversight of caseload to ensure that each patient has a specialist review of their needs and care plan, at least on an annual basis.
- Complying with the national Parkinson's Audit key performance indicators.

The Advanced Practitioner Therapist will be based in the acute and community setting.

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.

KEY RESULT AREAS/PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Caseload Management:

This post requires caseload management which will vary according to location and complexity. There will be a responsibility to provide advice to patients with highly complex and specialist needs as well as carers and other disciplines.

Provide support to other registered and non-registered staff regarding effective caseload management and monitoring strategies.

Provide direct support and guidance to registered and non-registered staff with potentially challenging cases/situations, particularly where reassessment may be required.

The post holder will pass on and also encourage others to share their skills/knowledge within both formal and informal environments.

To have responsibility for the development of therapy staff, support staff and students.

Budget:

To be responsible for the use of resources in the most efficient and effective way.

To authorise spending on equipment (core items) from Community Equipment Store catalogue to a value of £5,000 [2008] following authorisation training.

Week-end working responsibilities:

Cover for weekend working rotas are part of contractual working hours. These rotas are currently based in North Devon District Hospital (NDDH) and may change to include other locations as services develop.

There is also a requirement to work on bank holidays recompensed in line with Agenda for Change for neuro-rehabilitation rotas.

All qualified physiotherapy staff are expected to participate in the weekend working rotas and take a fair share of bank holiday working

KEY WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

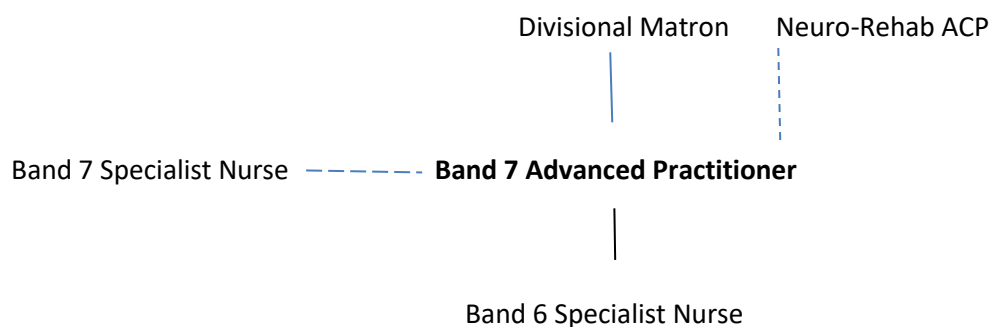
Areas of Responsibility: The post-holder will be part of the inter-disciplinary Parkinson's team and have clinical responsibility for more junior nurses and AHPs within the service.)

No. of Staff reporting to this role: 1)

Of particular importance are working relationships with:

Internal to the Trust	External to the Trust
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clerical Staff• Cluster Manager, Service Lead or Team Lead• Community equipment store- as required• Complex Care Teams• Consultants• Head of Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Services -as required• Trust staff at all levels• Nursing Staff /specialist nurses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPs and other practice staff - as required• Other specialist services -as required• Patients, relatives and carers• Social Services• Voluntary agencies -as required

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



FREEDOM TO ACT

To work as an advanced practitioner in the community/ hospital setting (as appropriate) without immediate supervision.

Lead specialist in clinical area of work which may be across more than one team/cluster.

Adhere to professional and organisational standards of practice.

Be professionally accountable for all aspects of your own work, within the context of an autonomous practitioner.

Initiate and lead specific projects as required

COMMUNICATION/RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

Ensure effective communication takes place at all times, taking a team approach to patient care and service needs.

Lead and attend multidisciplinary meetings, case conferences and visits as appropriate, to ensure that there is an integrated approach that benefits patient's overall care and discharge plans.

Be proactive in giving talks/demonstrations regarding your work to therapy colleagues and others.

Write comprehensive reports regarding patient assessment, treatment outcomes and recommendations to GPs, consultants, other health and social care colleagues and other members of the multidisciplinary team.

Read and interpret a range of patient medical, medication, social history and social care plans.

Read and interpret a range of policy and guidance, both local and national.

Provide information, advice and clinical expertise to team members and managers.

Liaise closely with all members of the primary health care team and other agencies in all matters regarding patients care, discharge and future care management.

Work with patients referred with complex communication and cognitive problems e.g. stroke.

Communicates sensitive and complex information e.g. prognosis

Obtain patient consent and work within a legal framework with patients who lack capacity to consent to treatment

ANALYTICAL/JUDGEMENTAL SKILLS

Undertake a comprehensive, holistic highly specialist clinical assessment of patients presenting with highly complex multifactorial problems using advanced analytical and investigative skills and clinical reasoning.

Use clinical judgment to access further diagnostics, treatment etc.

Interpret highly complex information e.g. medical notes and clinical findings.

To provide advanced specialist advice and second clinical opinion to other colleagues e.g. GPs.

To actively manage clinical waiting times to meet patient need and Trust priorities.

Work in collaboration with other teams in order to support a consistent and equitable service across the Trust.

Lead and participate in the operational planning and implementation of policy and service development within the team, helping to set priorities.

Lead clinical changes that contribute to the development of patient pathways.

Propose changes to improve practice in line with local and national guidelines.

Undertake risk assessment, using clinical judgement and provide accurate feedback to the team as necessary e.g. in relation to lone working.

Apply clinical reasoning skills after assessment to decide appropriate treatment plan and approach.

PLANNING/ORGANISATIONAL SKILLS

Manage an individual caseload of highly complex patients effectively and efficiently.

Take part and lead group sessions

Plan organize and prioritize own work load and guide the work of support workers and junior staff as appropriate.

Work with the team to deliver the most effective service within the resources available to meet patient needs

Exercise good personal time management, punctuality and consistent, reliable attendance

Co-ordinate patient appointments

To be involved in longer term strategic planning in area of expertise.

PATIENT/CLIENT CARE

Manage own highly complex caseload and treatment programmes to a high standard expected of an experienced clinician without day to day clinical supervision. Support is available through the clinical supervision programme and from more specialist or skilled staff in a particular area.

Prioritise, assess and treat highly complex patients referred, taking an evidence-based and reflective practice approach, using a wide range of modalities and skills in order to maximise patient/user independence.

Identify specific problems/needs, and develop goals and highly specialist treatment plans in partnership with the patient and others.

Evaluate patient care in the specialty and be proactive in developing services to meet national and local standards.

Evaluate patient/user progress, and modify treatment/input if required.

Maintain accurate and timely patient records and reports using agreed standard formats

Be professionally accountable for all aspects of your own work, within the context of an autonomous practitioner.

Comply with trust infection control policies and conduct him/herself at all time in a manner as to minimise the risk of health care associated infections.

POLICY/SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

Keep up to date with professional and related Health and /Social Care developments in liaison with Area professional lead and Trust Head of Profession and other colleagues.

Support the team to keep updated in developments in the NHS and Social care, leading in the specialty.

Identify opportunities to improve the service, taking account of resources available, discussing your ideas with colleagues and managers.

Participate in the operational planning and implementation of policy and service development within the specialty, leading on priorities in your area and coordinating across organisational and professional boundaries.

Propose and lead changes to improve practice in line with local and national guidelines.

Be aware of and follow the Health and Safety at Work Act and local/national guidelines, reporting any incidents using the correct procedures.

Ensure that staff are aware of, and follow Health and Safety at Work Act and national/local guidelines and are aware of correct procedures for reporting incidents.

Report any accidents/ untoward incidents/ near misses to self, patients or carers to the manager in accordance with Trust policy

FINANCIAL/PHYSICAL RESOURCES

Support the manager in the best use and monitoring of allocated resources.

Assess, prescribe and order equipment and other resources.

Ensure safe and efficient use of stock and equipment. Ensure equipment has appropriate checks made. Report any equipment defects, taking action to ensure any such equipment is withdrawn from service.

Demonstrate and instruct the use of equipment to ensure safety.

Understand and apply the eligibility criteria for services

HUMAN RESOURCES

Work collaboratively with the manager to ensure training and continuing professional development for all team members and planning for the appropriate workforce.

Participate in clinical supervision as supervisor and supervisee.

Participate in staff appraisal as appraiser and appraisee.

Participate in and be proactive in leading and teaching at training sessions for staff and other agencies.

Be involved in the recruitment of therapy and rehabilitation staff in the team / cluster in accordance with HR policies, terms and conditions to maintain an effective workforce capable of meeting the objectives of the service.

Undertake the full range of clinical leadership tasks including communication, staff involvement, workforce planning, appraisal, training and development, and performance management.

Actively share areas of knowledge and experience both formally and informally.

Ensure that HCPC registration is maintained and evidenced to the manager.

Work with the manager to ensure clinical cover across the locality is maintained especially at times of service pressure.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

Contribute to the collection of statistical data in order to monitor and develop team activity using electronic and paper methods.

Monitor and evaluate the information available.

Maintain accurate and timely patient records using agreed standard formats.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Maintain an up to date knowledge of all areas of clinical practice using a variety of CPD methods and to maintain a CPD portfolio.

Lead on clinical governance activities e.g. audit, research, service reviews.

Take a lead role in clinical development e.g. journal clubs, special interest groups, peer review groups and other activities to share and expand specialist knowledge across the service.

Provide support and leadership to the team members to participate in clinical governance activities e.g. audit, research, clinical reviews.

Adhere to all professional standards of practice and organizational policies and procedures

PHYSICAL SKILLS

Assess, prescribe and demonstrate the safe use of equipment, e.g. wheelchairs, in a variety of settings including the patient's home.

Computer skills to maintain patient records, clinical audit, support clinical practice, e mail, presentations and order equipment etc.

Therapeutic handling of patients (e.g. positioning, stair practice) demonstrating dexterity, co-ordination and palpatory skills often with the need for prolonged physical effort. This will include patients with complex and specialist needs.

PHYSICAL EFFORT

Manually handle equipment (wheelchairs, health care equipment) and furniture frequently, following ergonomic risk assessment as per statutory training and service risk assessments.

Treatment will necessitate working in restricted positions or limited space.

Ability to travel to other locations as required meeting time constraints

Manual therapeutic handling of patients in relation to assessment, treatment and rehabilitation may require working in restricted positions or limited space.

MENTAL EFFORT

Manage competing demands of providing services on a daily basis and developing a clinical area.

Read, decipher and interpret patient information.

Read and decipher lengthy documents, summarising for other staff as appropriate.

Work pattern is unpredictable and subject to frequent interruption

Frequent mental effort in assessment and treatment programmes.

Long periods of concentration, particularly when using a VDU.

Identify strategies to motivate patients to comply with their treatment plan.

EMOTIONAL EFFORT

Work with patients/service users and carers who have a poor/life limiting prognosis, including the communication of distressing news.

Work with patients in the aftermath of bad news.

Work with patients with mental health problems or occasional challenging behaviour.

At times talk to relatives following a death.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work in a variety of settings according to patient needs including patients own home which can often involve hot/cold temperatures, cluttered, noisy environments and unhygienic environments.

Work with patients with a wide range of conditions including contact with body fluids such as urine, blood, sputum.

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.

APPLICABLE TO MANAGERS ONLY

Leading the team effectively and supporting their wellbeing by:

- Championing health and wellbeing.
- Encouraging and support staff engagement in delivery of the service.
- Encouraging staff to comment on development and delivery of the service.
- Ensuring during 1:1's / supervision with employees you always check how they are.

DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE CHECKS

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.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title	Advanced Practitioner Physiotherapist
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Requirements	Essential	Desirable
QUALIFICATION/ SPECIAL TRAINING Degree or Graduate Diploma in physio therapy HCPC registration Additional education in specialist field to masters level or equivalent experience Additional training relevant to the post e.g. moving and handling, clinical skills training, student supervision training. Member of specialist interest group	E E E E	D
KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS Evidence of continuing professional development Evidence of highly developed communication skills to motivate patients and team Highly developed analytical and critical appraisal skills Knowledge of relevant NSFs, appropriate national guidance and other relevant initiatives Experience of leading clinical audit Multi-disciplinary team working across health, social and voluntary sectors Proven ability of complex case management Broad range of IT Skills	E E E E E E E	
EXPERIENCE Appropriate clinical skill and competence to demonstrate highly developed specialist knowledge in clinical setting including specialist training Advanced level of clinical expertise to plan and organise a specialist caseload and develop the clinical team Experience of advanced problem solving Undertaken specific piece of work to enhance service development	E E E E	
PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES Able to influence and lead the team Proven ability in organisational and time management Ability to deal with and resolve conflict	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	

WORKING CONDITIONS/HAZARDS		FREQUENCY (Rare/ Occasional/ Moderate/ Frequent)			
		R	O	M	F
Hazards/ Risks requiring Immunisation Screening					
Laboratory specimens	N				
Contact with patients	Y				x
Exposure Prone Procedures	N				
Blood/body fluids	Y		x		
Laboratory specimens	Y/N				
Hazard/Risks requiring Respiratory Health Surveillance					
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)	Y	x			
Animals	Y		x		
Cytotoxic drugs	N				
Risks requiring Other Health Surveillance					
Radiation (>6mSv)	N				
Laser (Class 3R, 3B, 4)	N				
Dusty environment (>4mg/m3)	Y	x			
Noise (over 80dBA)	N				
Hand held vibration tools (=>2.5 m/s2)	N				
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			x	
Challenging behaviour	Y		x		