

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Physiotherapy Assistant (wards and community)
Hours:	37.5 hours
Responsible to:	Lead Physiotherapist
Salary:	Band 3
Base:	Kingsway Hospital - Ashbourne Centre

JOB PURPOSE

To assist the Physiotherapist in provision of Physiotherapy treatment to patients on wards, in day hospitals and own home.

The main base for the post will be on the older adult inpatient wards in Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust but will also involve work throughout the service pathway to facilitate discharges with ongoing rehabilitation at home and also preventing admission.

The older adults on inpatient wards require a flexible approach with physiotherapy and so a larger presence on these wards allows physiotherapy to provide more responsive service

DIMENSIONS

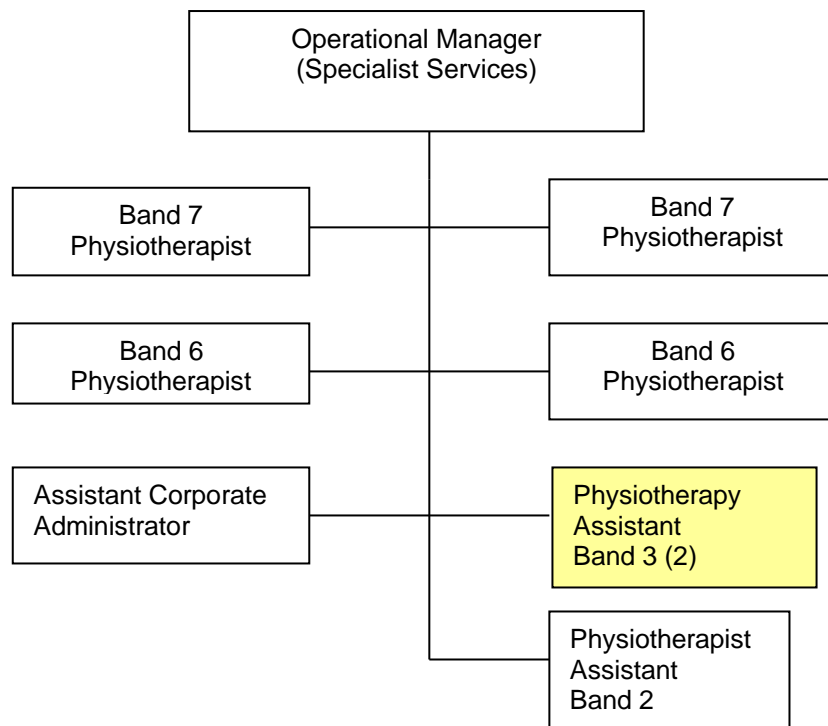
The Physiotherapy Department is a specialist team comprising of two Band 7 Physiotherapists, five Band 6 Physiotherapists, Physiotherapy Assistants, administrator and Physiotherapy Students working over a large geographical area.

Principal responsibilities to be part of a team providing a high standard and efficient clinical and personal care to patients referred to the physiotherapy service.

To record patients information in the patient's clinical notes

ORGANISATIONAL CHART

Reporting to the Lead Physiotherapist and/or Physiotherapists, the role requires effective communication and co-ordination of business activities to be developed and maintained across the Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust as shown below.



KEY AREAS

- The ability to understand a wide range of procedures requiring a good base level of theoretical knowledge. e.g. hot packs and wax procedures.
- Knowledge of mental illness, dementia and anxiety.
- The ability to assess the patient's condition and comfort through test results and observations, make judgements involving the facts or situations and report on the results. e.g. pulse or blood pressure.
- The ability to use initiative when acting on test results and responds to patient's signs.
- The ability to understand reasons for aggressive behaviour on the part of confused patients.
- The ability to visit patients in their own home to continue treatment programmes and carries out activities already set in broad terms by the physiotherapist.
- Organise own day-to-day activities for programmes already set in broad terms by a Chartered Physiotherapist.
- Plan and organise straightforward tasks and routine 'housekeeping' duties in the Physiotherapy Department.
- Demonstrating and teaching the use of individual equipment assess the patient's ability to use correctly and correct as necessary.
- To work without direct supervision, record patient's observation and be able to report relevant information. To undertake exercise programmes in groups or with individual patients after consultation with the Physiotherapist.
- Able to receive instructions on patient care but carry routine patient care duties at own discretion e.g. when a patient is working on their programme, have the ability to increase or decrease the patient's exercise programme.
- Implement the clinical care package, assist with the patient's personal clinical care.
- Undertake assessment and outcome measure tools for Chartered Physiotherapist.
- Write up in the patient's notes treatments that they have given the patient that day and records any clinical observations made during the treatment session.
- Occasional requirement to exert intensive physical effort for short periods, moving hoists, wheelchairs, gymnasium equipment.
- The ability to understand and comment on changes to be made in the Physiotherapy Department.
- Observe a personal duty of care when using equipment. e.g. hoists, wheelchairs.
- Ensure that equipment used by patients e.g. zimmers, sticks, Tens machines, flowtron is clean and is in a safe and hygienic condition at all times.
- Demonstrating and teaching the safe use of the equipment to patients assess the patient's ability to use correctly and correct as necessary.
- Clerical duties including data collection.
- Assists with research and development, surveys or audits as necessary to own work and the department.
- Guided by standard operating procedures.
- Comply with the Trust's policy on Infection Control and follow the approved code of practice.

COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

- Providing and receiving routine information that requires tact or persuasive skills.
- Working with patients who have barriers to understanding and provide and receive complex or sensitive information
- The ability to communicate factual information to patients using persuasion, reassurance, sensitivity and tact.
- To communicate well with patients with dementia or another mental illness.
- Communication with multi-disciplinary teams and agencies. e.g. team work/exchanging information etc.
- The ability to share sensitive information with patients or carers.

MOST CHALLENGING PART OF YOUR JOB

- Requirement for concentration as the work pattern is unpredictable and concentration is required when carrying clinical and personal care with mental ill patients.
- Exposure to distressing, emotional or unpleasant circumstances (1 to 2 times a month).
- Constant care of the mentally ill, dealing with patients with dementia or enduring mental illness.
- Face-to-face contact with aggressive behaviour from patients who have mental health problems (3 to 5 per year).

JOB DESCRIPTION AGREEMENT

Job Holder's signature: Date:

Senior Officer/Head of
Department signature: Date:

Title: Lead Physiotherapist

Analyst Int:

Review Date: