

Neurosciences

Job Description

Job Title: Multiple Sclerosis Therapies Nurse

Band: 6

Hours of Work (p/w): 37.5 hrs/week

Service Centre/Directorate: Neurosciences

Base: St George's Hospital but the post holder may be required to work at any of the Trust's sites.

Accountable to: Head of Nursing

Reports to: Lead MS Clinical Nurse Specialist

Responsible for: Care of Patients with Multiple Sclerosis

Key working relationships: Consultant Neurologists, Medical staff, MS Clinical Nurse Specialists, Nursing staff, Neuro Pharmacists, MS Team Coordinator, GP's, Day Unit Coordinator.

Role of the Department: Neurology services

Job Summary:

- To provide and effectively deliver an expert nursing service managing specialist intravenous and oral therapies for patients with multiple sclerosis (MS)
- To manage a caseload of patients receiving MS therapies
- To ensure that patients and their families are fully informed of the therapies and supported by providing clinical and social support
- To support the MS Clinical Nurse Specialists in providing a high quality of care to patients with MS
- To assist in the development of evidence based clinical nursing practice in line with current research and guidelines
- To work together with the MS Consultant Neurologists, the neuro day unit staff and the MS Clinical Nurse Specialists. To establish clear lines of communication within the specialty team to ensure cohesive multidisciplinary management of patients

Trust Vision & Values:

The postholder is expected to have a clear understanding of how this post contributes to the achievement of the trust vision of:

A thriving Foundation Trust at the heart of an integrated healthcare system. One that delivers improved patient care at a community, hospital and specialist setting, supported by a unique and nationally recognised programme of research, education and employee engagement.

We expect all our staff to share the values that are important to the Trust, being Excellent, Kind, Responsible & Respectful, and behave in a way that reflects these.

St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and expects that all staff will share in this commitment. The Trust is clear that all staff have a responsibility to be aware of children and adult safeguarding policies and procedures and that each member of staff, clinical and non-clinical, will attend child or adult safeguarding training that is provided at an appropriate level to suit their role. The Trust has the additional expectation that all staff will be able to identify concerns and know what action to take.

Main Duties/Key Results Areas:

1. Clinical

- To oversee the caseload of patients receiving advanced disease modifying therapies for MS and liaise with the MS Clinical Nurse Specialists as appropriate.
- To administer advanced disease modifying therapy (DMT) as appropriate in identified clinical areas within the Trust.
- To ensure all documentation and planned care related to MS therapies is managed in accordance with recognised local protocols and national guidelines.
- To provide specialist nursing advice and support to patients, their families and other healthcare professionals with regards their disease and specifically related to the therapies they are receiving.
- To ensure continuity of a high standard of evidence based nursing care, assessing health, health related and nursing needs of patients by identifying and initiating appropriate steps for safe effective care.
- To cannulate patients prior to receiving MS therapies as appropriate.
- To order, perform and monitor blood tests of patients on MS therapies.
- To regularly review those clinical notes of patients requiring imminent treatment ensuring all assessments, diagnostic investigations and test results are up-to-date and in place to ensure a smooth admission process.
- To support the MS Clinical Nurse Specialists with their patient caseloads.
- To attend Multidisciplinary team meetings.
- To support the MS Clinical Nurse Specialists in the DMT clinic, providing information to patients and their families on DMT.
- To work with the MS team to develop, implement and evaluate integrated care pathways for patients on MS therapies.
- To participate in the identification and development of clinical protocols and strategies to enhance both the continuity and standard of specialist care whilst ensuring equity of access to the service.
- To actively involve service users in providing feedback of their experience of the current service and suggestions for improvements.
- Establish open lines of communication with relevant medical staff.

2. Organisational

- To liaise closely with the neuroscience day unit coordinator ensuring effective planning of MS patient admissions and optimum utilisation of the day unit and patient flow through the service.
- Maintaining and monitoring a safe and clean environment within the

clinical area in accordance with the Trust Health and Safety, Clinical Risk and Infection Control Policies.

- Maintaining and monitoring levels of relevant stock and ensuring that there are adequate supplies and all resources are used effectively.
- To take appropriate action to address unexpected changes and situations, informing the on call Senior Nurse or Manager as necessary.
- To be familiar with and use the iCLIP system, EPR and any other computerised system integral to the running of the service.
- To maintain the MS patient database to ensure an up to date record of patients.
- To proactively contribute towards the broader nursing and quality agenda within the division.
- To have an awareness of clinical governance and the processes in place to facilitate this within the directorate.

3. Education and Research

- In consultation with the Day Unit Sister/Charge Nurse participate in the education of pre and post registration students in accordance with the University and Trust requirements.
- To be responsible for attending mandatory training and that attendance is accurately recorded.
- To be responsible for personal and professional development and practice, recognising own limitations and the need for continuing education
- To take a lead in initiating, implementing and evaluating new ideas and changes in clinical practice.
- In conjunction with the Day Unit Sister/Charge Nurse participate in the orientation of new staff and the development of junior staff.
- To participate in teaching to relevant groups.
- Promote health education and provide appropriate information and advice to patients and their carers.
- Participate in and lead quality initiatives to promote and ensure that nursing care is evidence and research based.

4. General

- To act in accordance with the NMC Code of Professional Conduct for Nurses Midwives and Health Visitors and Scope of Practice and be accountable for his/her actions at all times.
- To have responsibility for the Health, Safety and Welfare of self and others and to comply at all time with the requirements of the Health and Safety Regulations.
- To ensure confidentiality at all times, only releasing confidential information obtained during the course of employment to those acting in an official capacity in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act and its amendments
- To work in accordance with the Trust's Equal Opportunities policy to eliminate unlawful discrimination in relation to employment and service delivery
- Promote equal opportunities for staff and clients in accordance with St. George's Healthcare NHS Trust and Faculty of Healthcare Science Policies, to ensure that no person receives less favourable treatment than another on the grounds of sex, marital status, race, religion, colour, creed, nationality, ethnic or national origin or sexual orientation.
- Be aware and work within the policies of St. George's Healthcare NHS Trust and Faculty of Healthcare Sciences carrying out such duties as may be required, and are consistent with the responsibility of the grade.
- To ensure skills are up-to-date and relevant to the role, to follow relevant Trust policies and professional codes and to maintain registration where this is a requirement of the role.
- To comply with St. George's Healthcare No Smoking Policies.
- To undertake such duties as may be required from time to time as are consistent with the responsibilities of the grade and the needs of the service.

This job description is not an exhaustive document but is a reflection of the current position. Details and emphasis may change in line with service needs after consultation with the post holder.

St George's Healthcare NHS Trust is an Equal Opportunities employer and operates a No Smoking Policy.

Person Specification

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Band: 6

Factor	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Qualifications and Training	RN (general)	Neuro course Venepuncture and cannulation course Neurostatus certification Development of Multiple Sclerosis Care for Specialists module MS Nurse Pro Course	I A
Experience	Minimum of two years post registration experience.	Competent in performing 12 lead ECG Experience working in neurology speciality	
Skills	Ability to prioritise work. Ability to manage own caseload. Ability to assess, plan and evaluate patient care according to individual needs. Demonstrates an understanding of the application of leadership skills Have excellent verbal and written communication skills. Computer literate	Evidence of personal professional development	I A T
Knowledge	Awareness of professional responsibilities Knowledge of current nursing issues	Understanding of research and audit	I A T

	Demonstrates knowledge of the application of evidence based practice.		
Other	<p>Motivates and demonstrates enthusiasm for the clinical speciality</p> <p>Demonstrates a caring and sensitive approach to patient care</p> <p>Adaptable and responsive to changing needs</p> <p>Able to use own initiative</p> <p>Ability to identify stress in self and others and to take effective action to manage the situation.</p>		<p>I</p> <p>A</p> <p>T</p>

Key:

I = Interview

A = Application Form

T = Practical Test