

Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust JOB DESCRIPTION

1 JOB DETAILS

Job Title:	Research Nurse
Band:	Band 6 (£26041-£34876)
Directorate:	Nursing Directorate
Department:	Research and Innovation Department
Reports to:	Simon Sharpe, Lead Research Nurse
Accountable to:	Simon Sharpe, Lead Research Nurse

2 JOB PURPOSE

- The Research Nurse will develop and provide a high quality specialist nursing service to inpatients and outpatients utilizing knowledge and skills learned from previous research clinical practice.
- Interviewing skills will be deployed using sensitivity, empathy and excellent communication skills. Expertise in data collection from research patients will be evident, together with an in depth understanding of the consent process.
- The nurse will independently identify, screen, recruit and follow up research participants by assessing physical, psychological and social suitability.
- Ongoing development of evolving trials portfolio.
- Efficiency at time management and an awareness of areas for role development is required.

3 DIMENSIONS

The post holder will be responsible for trial data management. This will require the deployment of administrative, analytical and interpersonal skills alongside an aptitude for securing multi-departmental support for clinical trials through effective communication at all levels of the organisations involved. Established clinical nursing skills and expert communication is essential.

Freedom to Act -

The post holder will be required to work independently within occupational, National and organisational guidelines.

4 ORGANISATION CHART



5 COMMUNICATION AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

The post holder will be expected to communicate with staff at all levels throughout the organisation and external agencies as well as patients, visitors and the general public. It is expected they will adopt an appropriate manner, displaying an understanding of sensitive and complex issues, whilst respecting the individuals' culture and background.

Occasional formal presentations may be required to educate the extended research teams about new trials.

6 KEY RESULT AREAS

Analytical and Judgemental Skills

- Perform comprehensive assessment of patient eligibility for entry into clinical trials. Plan, implement and evaluate patient care according to trial protocol and within care pathway.

Planning and Organisational Skills

- Organise own work and manage own caseload and practice, ensuring practice is carried out within financial and physical resources available.
- Incorporate active support to other members of the Research and Innovation team, covering for sickness and leave.
- Manage caseload to allow absences for training and meetings away from base.

Physical Skills

- Maintain and develop clinical skills as appropriate to requirements of each trial such as phlebotomy, physical tests and provision of personal care.
- Develop IT skills as necessary to facilitate collection of research data.
- Achieve competence in the use of mechanical devices under investigation in clinical trials.

Responsibility for Patients

- Involve patients and relatives/carers in the process and management of clinical trials utilizing established nursing skills.
- Act as a patient advocate, ensuring meaningful consent is given by all research participants.
- Have respect for patient confidentiality at all times.
- Acknowledge individual patient needs in spiritual, religious and cultural matters.
- Collection of body tissue, such as blood, tumour or urine. Storing and shipping of such tissue.

Responsibility for Policy and Service Development

- Adhere to Trust Policies and Research and Innovation Department Standard Operating Procedures.
- Ensure all trials supported by the Research and Innovation Department adhere to appropriate standards i.e. ICH Good Clinical Practice and to the agreed protocol approved by the Research Ethics Committee.
- Establish links and work collaboratively with other professionals and agencies to ensure patient needs are met, especially in relation to clinical trial requirements.
- Liaise and work closely with local and national Research Investigators and clinical trial monitors.
- Ongoing development of research trials portfolio.

Responsibility for Financial and Physical Resources

- Ensure practice is carried out within financial and physical resources available.
- Identify and maintain supportive networks.
- Work in collaboration with research networks to promote a clinical trial culture, meeting accrual targets and audit activity.

Responsibility for Staff

- Integrate and support other members of the research team.
- Assist in training and induction of new research staff
- Act as an educational resource for all professional groups within Dorset County Hospital and associated forums.
- Support the Lead Research Nurse as appropriate e.g. carry out appraisals.

Responsibility for Information Resources

- Assist the Lead Research Nurse in the development of the trials portfolio within the Trust, the development and maintenance of standard operating procedures and the development and maintenance of the database of trial patients.
- Collect, collate, evaluate and report information from a wide range of sources, in order to maintain accurate patient and clinical trial records.
- Maintain spreadsheets and databases to record and document processes within the Research and Innovation Department.
- Act as a resource for staff and patients on information about research, specific studies and trials and study results.

Responsibility for Research and Innovation Department

- Prepare and submit clinical research documents for DCH Trust Approval
- Ensure external monitoring of trials is facilitated.
- Co-ordinate and manage a range of approved research studies.
- Work flexibly on various studies within the Dorset County Hospital trials portfolio.

7 ENVIRONMENT AND EFFORT

Physical Effort

- The post holder will be required to review online systems in order to facilitate tailored nursing care for research patients, which will involve nursing practice in various hospital departments where the patient is attending for treatment and investigations.

Mental Effort

- The administration of complex confidential and sensitive data daily will require frequent demand for concentration with predictable work pattern.
- Participate in supportive team meetings +/-clinical supervision and lead these in the absence of more senior staff.

Emotional Effort

- The research nurse will be dealing with anxious patients on a daily basis. They may have recently been diagnosed with malignant and/or terminal disease that may cause considerable distress.
- There will be a need to examine patient records, frequently encountering graphic and distressing information.

Working Conditions

- Ward environments will be attended to provide access to patients and their records when held there. This may involve dealing with unpleasant smells, noise, body fluids in the course of daily practice.
- Requirement to use VDU equipment daily.

8 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH HAZARD EXPOSURE ASSOCIATED TO THE POST

(Please tick as appropriate)

Patient contact	X	Lone working	X	Working in isolation	
Passenger / Client Transport		Exposure prone procedures	X	Patient Handling	X
Strenuous Physical Activity		DSE user (as defined in DSE Regs)		Confined Spaces	
Night working		Food Handling / Preparation		Working at heights	
Working with vibratory tools		Noisy Environment Working		Safety Critical Work	
Working with respiratory irritants (including latex)		Please specify			
Working with substances hazardous to health	X	Please specify			
Other		Please specify			

9 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, as an employee, you must take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and for other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions at work. The Act also states that you must not intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse anything provided in the interests of health, safety and welfare.

You are also required to make yourself aware of the Trust's health and safety policies and to report any accidents/incidents.

10 INFECTION CONTROL

All staff are reminded of their responsibility to adhere to Trust and Departmental Infection Prevention Policies, including policies for the cleaning and contamination of equipment, in order to protect their own health and that of other employees, visitors and patients.

Any employee who wilfully disregards Trust and Departmental infection prevention policies may be liable to serious disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal.

11 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is committed to the development of positive policies to promote equal opportunity in employment. All employees have a responsibility to ensure that they understand the standards expected and that they promote and adhere to the equal opportunity measures adopted by the Trust.

12 CONFIDENTIALITY

Confidential and personal information related to staff, patients and Dorset County Hospital NHS Foundation Trust must not be disclosed within or outside the place of work, except in the proper discharge of duties.

13 JOB DESCRIPTION AGREEMENT

Signed by – Post Holder: _____ Date: _____

Signed by – Manager: _____ Date: _____

This job description is subject to regular review – last reviewed
The Trust operates a No Smoking Policy.
ID badges must be worn while on duty.