

**ROTHERHAM DONCASTER AND SOUTH HUMBER NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

**OLDER PEOPLES' MENTAL HEALTH LIAISON SERVICE**

**COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH NURSE:      BAND 6 LIAISON PRACTITIONER**

**REPORTS TO:                                      Service Manger**

**OBJECTIVES OF THE POST:**

- To be responsible for the delivery and ongoing development of a specialist, effective, evidence based liaison service for older people within the acute hospital.
- To conduct comprehensive assessments in older peoples mental health, formulate management and discharge plans ensuring that patients mental health needs are consider and needs addressed .
- Can demonstrate in practice the necessary skills to undertake therapeutic interventions in a range of clinical situations such as crisis work, risk management, mental health emergencies and a range of psychosocial and behavioural presentations in the acute hospital.
- To receive, prioritise and act upon referrals received for mental health assessments for older people who present at the emergency department and throughout the acute hospital.
- Effectively liaise with staff within the acute hospital and other organisations as required.
- To provide a consultation liaison service for inpatients of the acute hospital who may be experiencing mental health difficulties with co-existing medical problems.
- Have the ability to recognise the mental health needs associated with an individual's physical health needs.
- Demonstrate the necessary skills and interventions to undertake a risk assessment utilising a structured clinical judgement approach.
- Accurately and comprehensively document a risk assessment and risk management plan once it is complete.
- Demonstrate up to date knowledge of the impact of ageing on risk and its assessment and management.
- To complete comprehensive cognitive assessments to inform and establish diagnosis and management of dementia care within the acute hospital and have up to date knowledge of dementia pathways to ensure appropriate assessment and follow up.
- To provide specialist management advice to acute hospital staff providing care for people who present with behaviours difficult to manage on the ward environment.
- Demonstrate the ability to assist the acute hospital staff to develop and implement an immediate management plan which considers risk management
- To liaise with discharge teams to contribute to nursing assessments and MDT meetings on the wards.
- To provide effective links with Community Mental Health teams, primary care, drug and alcohol services and other statutory and voluntary services for appropriate aftercare to be delivered on discharge.
- To promote and assist in the maintenance of the highest attainable standard of nursing care in a general hospital setting, drawing on examples of current best practice
- To assist in developing and delivering appropriate educational packages and advice to hospital staff based on best practice and/or individual patient needs/care/plan.
- To maintain close working relationships with referring agencies and supporting/regulatory bodies such as CSCI and Social Services.

- To play a significant role in the development of this evolving service. Maintain close working relationships with referring agencies and be responsive to the changing needs of the service
- To maintain timely clinical records and share content of clinical records/information appropriately with other professionals and agencies, working across interfaces, to improve communication and timely patient care

#### **PROFESSIONAL:**

- To work as a member of the Multi-Disciplinary Team reporting back to colleagues, both verbally and in writing and seeking advice, guidance and support where necessary from senior nursing staff and medical staff.
- To ensure that carers are involved in the treatment and review process as appropriate
- To promote a unified approach to service provision, embracing principles of person centred care and community working
- To actively seek to contribute to setting standards of care, to generate and implement quality initiatives
- To develop and maintain healthy partnerships with all stakeholders including statutory, third Sector and voluntary agencies
- To advise patients, carers and significant others of the available resources. Referring assessed need to those agencies best able to meet these in the community and facilitate use of these resources
- To understand the requirements of the Mental Health Act 1983, Mental Capacity Act 2005 within an acute hospital.
- Demonstrate up to date knowledge of related legislation and guidance involved in determining an individual's capacity and accurately record the process and findings.
- To participate in clinical and managerial supervision and Performance and Development Review
- To participate in Continuing Professional Development
- To be aware of and comply with the Trust's nursing principles and protocols, Nursing Midwifery Council (NMC) guidance and statutory requirements pertaining to patient care and reporting of complaints
- To adhere to the principles of Clinical Governance and to participate in the Clinical Governance agenda
- To fulfil the requirements of the Competency Framework for Liaison Psychiatry as part of ongoing Continued Professional Development.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE:**

- To keep nursing notes according to NMC standards and agreed Trust standards
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- To complete assessment documentation and assessment letters and forward to GPs and other relevant parties involved in the individuals care.
- To maintain confidentiality
- To attend staff meetings as required
- To carry out any other duties of a similar nature as determined by the service manager
- To contribute to reduction of administrative activities through quality improvements

#### **HEALTH & SAFETY:**

- To report any incidents or accidents. Work within the policy guidelines on Safe Working in the Community
- To ensure compliance with Health & Safety instructions and policies of the Trust
  
- To use in a proper and safe manner, the equipment and facilities provided
  
- To refrain from the wilful misuse of interference with anything provided in the interests of health and safety and refrain from any action which may endanger yourself and others
  
- To report as soon as possible all accidents and untoward occurrences and to ensure relevant documentation is completed.

**EDUCATION:**

- To act as mentor for students allocated to the service
  
- To assist in developing and participating in education and training programmes for general hospital staff medical staff.
  
- To educate the staff in regard to mental health, with awareness of needs arising through mental health and physical health and management of delirium
  
- To keep up-to-date with developments within the mental health field and to participate in research and audit programmes to improve nursing practice, with evidence of on-going continuing professional development
  
- To maintain own personal educational needs in accordance with NMC requirements

This job description is not all inclusive and is subject to review.

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**JOB SPECIFICATION**

**POST:** Older Peoples Mental Health liaison  
Band 6

**UNIT:** Opal Centre

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
Qualifications and training	Registered Mental Health Nurse. ENB 998 or equivalent. Risk assessment training	RGN. ENB 941 Commitment to further education e.g. relevant degree. Non-Medical Prescribing
Work Experience	Appropriate demonstrable experience of working with older people with mental health problems. Experience of working with carers and families. Evidence of ongoing CPD and evidence based practice	Evidence of ability to work across team and organisational boundaries developing multi-professional and multi-agency partnerships. Hospital liaison experience. Experience of integrated working with physical health services.
Physical Characteristics	Access to transport and the ability to travel within the required geographical area.  Occupational health assessment	
Communication skills	Demonstrates advanced and comprehensive communication skills. Clear and concise command of English (written/oral.) Ability to organise and carry out teaching practice. Basic IT skills/Computer skills. Positive presentation skills Ability to integrate	Specialised skills e.g. interviewing and counselling.
Personal Qualities	Self-motivated, starter and finisher. Must be able to demonstrate ability to prioritise workload Organised. Highly motivated. Flexibility	

Supervisory/Managerial Skills	Demonstrate an ability to assist in the educational development and skills of all junior staff.	