

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **1. General Information**

JOB TITLE: Clinical Nurse Specialist in Tissue Viability

GRADE: Band 7

DEPARTMENT: Integrated Local Services – Acute Tissue Viability

RESPONSIBLE TO: Tissue Viability Clinical Lead

ACCOUNTABLE TO: Head of Nursing, Integrated Local Services

LOCATION: St Thomas' Hospital

### **Department Information**

Guy's and St Thomas' is comprised of four Clinical Groups (CGs) and Integrated and Specialist Medicine is one of the largest of the groups with a budget of over £500m and approximately 6200 WTE staff.

Integrated and Specialist Medicine consists of 9 Directorates and provides care and treatment to patients who require emergency and inpatient care, community services including district nursing and specialist care, dental services, specialist inpatient / outpatient areas, imaging and pharmacy. Integrated and Specialist Medicine also have responsibility for cross site operations. The integrated approach of the clinical group facilitates and promotes the shared learning of best practice, innovative and creative ways of working to enhance the patient experience and ensure the delivery of outstanding care.

The Integrated Local Services directorate within this clinical group provides a range of community and inpatient health services for adults within the communities of Lambeth and Southwark, with some services also provided in Lewisham. Our hospital-based inpatient and outpatient services provide care for adults from across the region.

The services provided by the directorate include neighbourhood nursing, specialist rehabilitation and reablement (bed and home based), specialist palliative care and end of life care, vulnerable adults and prevention services, the @Home service, customer services and site administration services. Services are delivered in various locations including health centres, community bed-based units, patients' homes and a range of other community locations. Our inpatient hospital services serve the Guy's and St Thomas' sites. Our services work closely with all inpatient teams at Guy's, St Thomas', and King's College hospitals, and collaborate closely with social services, mental health services and the voluntary sector.

### **Inpatient Services Philosophy**

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust comprises five of the UK's best-known hospitals – Guy's, St Thomas', Evelina London Children's Hospital, Royal Brompton and Harefield – as well as community services in Lambeth and Southwark, all with a long history of high-quality care, clinical excellence, research and innovation.

We are among the UK's busiest, most successful foundation trusts. We provide specialist care for patients including heart and lung, cancer and renal services as well as a full range of local hospital and community services for people in Lambeth and Southwark.

We have a long tradition of clinical and scientific achievement and – as part of King's Health Partners – we are one of England's eight academic health sciences centres, bringing together world-class clinical services, teaching and research. We have one of the National Institute for Health Research's biomedical research centres, established with King's College London in 2007, as well as dedicated clinical research facilities.

We have around 22,700 staff, making us one of the largest NHS Trusts in the country and one of the biggest employers locally. We aim to reflect the diversity of the communities we serve and continue to develop new and existing partnerships with local people, patients, neighbouring NHS organisations, local authorities and charitable bodies and GPs.

We strive to recruit and retain the best staff as the dedication and skills of our employees lie at the heart of our organisation and ensure that our services are of the highest quality, safe and focused on our patients.

## **2. Key Relationships**

All clinical areas across both acute and community services, Inpatient Services Team, External bed contract suppliers and agents, Ward Managers, Senior Nurses, Heads of Nursing, District Nurses, Practice nurses, Medical Staff and GPs, Ancillary & Support Staff across community setting, Clinical Nurse specialist.

## **3. Duties and Responsibilities**

### **Clinical:**

- Delivering evidence based expert nursing care exercising a high degree of professional autonomy, demonstrating ability to make sound decisions based on knowledge and experience.
- Assessing individuals holistically using a range of different assessment methods and reach valid, reliable and comprehensive patient and client centred conclusions, which manage risk and are appropriate to need context and culture within the acute and community setting.
- Advising the multi-disciplinary team on nursing practice, and the nursing contribution to client care.
- Communicating with patients and clients in ways, which empower them to make informed choices about their health and health care, and actively promote their health and wellbeing.
- Determining therapeutic programmes, which are based on evidence, in the interests of patients and clients, and which involve other practitioners where this will improve health outcomes.
- Managing complex programmes of care effectively, through working in partnership with clinical teams across acute and community settings.
- Making specific interventions based on evidence and which are appropriate to assessed needs, context and culture, in partnership with patients, clients and other professions.

- In partnership with patients, clients and other professions, make sound decisions, which are ethically based in the interests of patients and clients in the absence of precedents and protocols.
- Receiving referrals from other professionals for consultation.
- Acting as a source of specialist advice to other health professionals.
- Managing constantly changing scenarios in the interest of patients and clients.

**Professional development:**

- To keep self and team updated on clinical and professional developments in line with research and evidence-based practice. To maintain a high professional profile for all service stakeholders and be an effective member of the team
- To act as a positive role model at all times

**Managerial:**

- Provide Input into the setting and monitoring clinical standards of excellence, to improve quality.
- Establishing relationships with other Nurse Specialists to develop a support network both within GSTT and south London.
- Seize opportunities to apply new knowledge to enhance patient care and develop the TVN service
- As part of the tissue viability team actively monitor the effectiveness of current therapeutic programmes and support the integration different aspects of practice to improve outcomes for patients and clients.
- Regularly update tissue viability manager and HoN for Inpatient services and deputies of developments with the service highlighting issues in a timely manner.

**Education, Training and Development:**

- Participate in undertaking a training needs analysis of those involved in the delivery of a comprehensive tissue viability service across GSTT and plan educational and professional development programmes to enable these needs to be met.
- Deliver training on 1:1 basis as well as formal training sessions. As part of the tissue viability team assist to create formal links with educational institutions health professionals from a variety of disciplines e.g. nursing, medicine and therapy.

**Research, Practice and Service Development:**

- Contributing to research/audit within the post and the speciality. Providing feedback at the trust safe in our hands weekly sessions.
- Developing professional practice, by ensuring it is evidence based, appropriate and meets the needs of the client group and their carers.
- Working with the health community advising on the implementation of the tissue viability services policy.
- Evaluating practice, ensuring that interventions are effective, efficient and make a difference.
- Embracing the current awareness of local regional, national and international perspectives on tissue viability care,
- Promote the improvement of quality and clinical effectiveness within resource constraints.
- Continuously assess and monitor risk in their own and teams practice and challenge others about wider risk factors.

The post holder is required to follow Trust policies and procedures which are regularly updated including:

### **Confidentiality / Data Protection / Freedom of Information**

Post holders must maintain the confidentiality of information about patients, staff and other health service business in accordance with the Data Protection Act of 1998. Post holders must not, without prior permission, disclose any information regarding patients or staff. If any member of staff has communicated any such information to an unauthorised person, those staff will be liable to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. Moreover, the Data Protection Act 1998 also renders an individual liable for prosecution in the event of unauthorised disclosure of information.

Following the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2005, post holders must apply the Trust's FOI procedure if they receive a written request for information.

### **Information Governance**

All staff must comply with information governance requirements. These includes statutory responsibilities (such as compliance with the Data Protection Act), following national guidance (such as the NHS Confidentiality Code of Practice) and compliance with local policies and procedures (such as the Trust's Confidentiality policy). Staff are responsible for any personal information (belonging to staff or patients) that they access and must ensure it is stored, processed and forwarded in a secure and appropriate manner.

### **Equal Opportunities**

Post holders must at all times fulfil their responsibilities with regard to the Trust's Equal Opportunities Policy and equality laws.

### **Health and Safety**

All post holders have a responsibility, under the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) and subsequently published regulations, to ensure that the Trust's health and safety policies and procedures are complied with to maintain a safe working environment for patients, visitors and employees.

### **Infection Control**

All post holders have a personal obligation to act to reduce healthcare-associated infections (HCAIs). They must attend mandatory training in Infection Control and be compliant with all measures required by the Trust to reduce HCAIs. **All post holders must comply with Trust infection screening and immunisation policies** as well as be familiar with the Trust's Infection Control Policies, including those that apply to their duties, such as Hand Decontamination Policy, Personal Protective Equipment Policy, safe procedures for using aseptic techniques and safe disposal of sharps.

### **Risk Management**

All post holders have a responsibility to report risks such as clinical and non-clinical accidents or incidents promptly. They are expected to be familiar with the Trust's use of risk assessments to predict and control risk, as well as the incident reporting system for learning from mistakes and near misses in order to improve services. Post holders must also attend training identified by their manager, or stated by the Trust to be mandatory.

### **Flexible Working**

As an organisation we are committed to developing our services in ways that best suit the needs of our patients. This means that some staff groups will increasingly be asked to work a more flexible shift pattern so that we can offer services in the evenings or at weekends.

### **Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults**

Post holders have a general responsibility for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults in the course of their daily duties and for ensuring that they are aware of the specific duties relating to their role.

### **Sustainability**

It is the responsibility of all staff to minimise the Trust's environmental impact by recycling wherever possible, switching off lights, computers monitors and equipment when not in use, minimising water usage and reporting faults promptly.

### **Smoking Policy**

The Trust is committed to providing a healthy and safe environment for staff, patients and visitors. Staff are therefore not permitted to smoke on Trust property or in Trust vehicles

### **Review of this Job Description**

This job description is intended as an outline of the general areas of activity and will be amended in the light of the changing needs of the organisation. To be reviewed in conjunction with the post holder.

**Last Reviewed MD/RF 10/08/2023**