

Job Description

Title: Epilepsy Nurse Specialist

Band: 6

Staff Group: Nursing

Reports to: Band 7 Epilepsy Nurse Specialist

Job Purpose:

The post holder will establish themselves as part of a speciality team caring for children and young people with epilepsy and their families/ carers within Portsmouth and surrounding areas (Fareham, Gosport and East Hampshire)

The post holder will supported to work with children and young people and their families/carers from pre-diagnosis and throughout their ongoing management and will help to facilitate transition to other services or adult care, as appropriate

As a Clinical Nurse Specialist, the post holder will act as an expert clinician and role model in the care of children and young people and their families/ carers, demonstrating a level of understanding and proficiency in epilepsy and working across organisational and professional boundaries

The Clinical Nurse Specialist will liaise appropriately with all key members of the multidisciplinary team and service users, and with supervision provide clinical advice and support to staff caring for children/young people with epilepsy i.e. GP, schools, doctors, pharmacists, nursing staff (community, hospital, hospice) and social services

The post holder will act as an advocate to children and young people and their families to improve their quality of life and experience of “living with epilepsy” and to ensure their needs are heard and acted upon

The clinical nurse specialist will work alongside the Senior Epilepsy nurses to develop and maintain high quality, innovative, clinical nursing practice which improves epilepsy management, patient experience, quality of life and outcomes for children and young people with epilepsy and their families/ carers

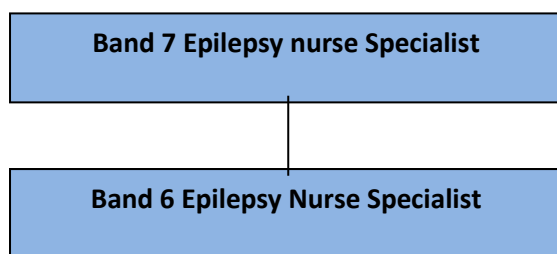
The post holder will maintain and develop the epilepsy nursing service, In collaboration with the lead consultants in both PHUT and Solent NHS Trusts, to provide a seamless, safe, effective, responsive and compassionate service for children and young people and their families in community, inpatient and outpatient settings

Key Responsibilities

- To work with the other epilepsy nurses specialists and consultants, to provide care within the hospital and in the community for Portsmouth University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Solent NHS Trust
- To holistically assess children/ young people suspected of having epilepsy or diagnosed with epilepsy as part of the multidisciplinary team
- To provide up to date education and advice to children and young people and their families/ carers, to meet their information needs

- To provide children and young people and their families/ carers holistic support and to become proactive partners in their care
- To provide up to date education and advice to other health and social care professionals, including doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, social workers and school staff, in order to ensure they are able to support children and young people with epilepsy and their families/ carers
- To work in collaboration with the acute ward staff to support discharge into the community and arrange follow up accordingly, promoting continuity of care
- To be a key player in the development, implementation, evaluation of care and to contribute to the setting of standards of care for patients with epilepsy, in collaboration with the multidisciplinary team
- To ensure that all children have an arranged nursing/medical review promptly following a seizure and to support hospital based follow up for children with severe or recurrent seizures, when needed
- To support the education of children's hospital and emergency care staff on the management of epilepsy, sustaining partnerships for care
- To standardise verbal and written patient information given to children, young people and their families/carers and to provide this information in a variety of formats, according to need
- To support the children's epilepsy clinics
- To support follow up consultations/ clinics as appropriate
- To ensure all children and young people have an individualised seizure management plan that reflects the specialist medical assessment and incorporates the recommendations for the management of childhood epilepsy (NICE)
- To provide support and advice to children and young people and their family/carers who are suspected of having epilepsy or have recently been diagnosed with epilepsy, in order to provide education on the type of epilepsy, treatment; including emergency treatment (if indicated), safety, and future management
- To work in close collaboration with the adult epilepsy team to provide and contribute to joint transition clinics
- To contribute to Epilepsy 12 and other relevant research as part of a multidisciplinary team
- To keep contemporaneous notes in line with organisational and National policy
- To undertake clinical and safeguarding supervision
- To ensure statutory and mandatory training is up to date and to meet NMC requirements for professional development and registration

Organisational Chart



Other

This job description does not purport to cover all aspects of the job holder's duties but is intended to be indicative of the main areas of responsibility



Management Essentials

We are proud to offer a comprehensive development programme, Management Essentials, designed to equip staff with the skills and knowledge to become effective managers.

This post has been identified as a role that will benefit from this training, and you will be able to enrol in both mandatory and, relevant, optional modules upon commencement with the Trust.

Please click [here](#) for further information on the Management Essentials programme.



Leadership Insights

Additionally, our new leadership development programme, Leadership Insights, aims to help all newly promoted, existing and aspiring leaders, at every level at the Trust, to recognise, reflect and role model the core principles of people-centred leadership.

If, this is of interest to you, you will be able to enrol upon commencement with the Trust.

Please click [here](#) for further information on the Leadership Insights programme.

Person Specification

Qualifications

Essential

- Registered first-level nurse (NMC)
- Post-graduate, higher level training (level 6)
- Significant demonstrable experience within the specialty of neurology/ epilepsy, with evidence of professional development
- Evidence of knowledge and clinical experience in a broad range of aspects of the specialist care of children/ young people with epilepsy
- Evidence of change management
- Evidence of developing policy, guidelines, pathways and managing resources
- Counselling and research awareness
- A car driver with use of vehicle for off-site travel

Desirable:

- PET 1 (or willingness to undertake)
- Teaching qualification

Skills and Knowledge

- Clinically competent
- Clinical decision-making skills
- Advanced Communication Skills Training (or a willingness to undertake)
- Effective leadership skills
- Organizational and time management skills
- Flexibility
- Ability to support the development of others

- Coaching and mentoring skills
- Critical appraisal skills
- Customer service skills
- IT literate
- Understanding of the theory and application of Clinical Governance to the role
- Experience of effective management and supervision of staff
- Leadership skills

Experience

- Experience of caring for/ supporting children and young people with epilepsy and their families/ carers
- Up to date knowledge relating to national guidelines on Epilepsy in children and young people
- Clinical and practical skills e.g. Seizure management
- Evidence of implementing quality and outcome measures, audit and service evaluation
- Understanding of clinical governance practices in relation to self and service
- Experience of providing verbal and written communication to MDT members in acute and primary care
- Experience of supporting patients transitioning from child to adult services
- Evidence of the application of research and best practice guidance to inform personal clinical practice

Working Together For Patients with Compassion as One Team Always Improving

Strategic approach (clarity on objectives, clear on expectations)

Relationship building (patient centred, communicate effectively, be open and willing to help, be courteous, develop partnerships)

Personal credibility (visibility, approachable, positive attitude, courage, resilience, confidence, role model, challenge bad behaviour, set personal goals, act with honesty, transparency and integrity)

Passion to succeed (identify areas to improve on, take action, take pride, take responsibility, aspire for excellence)

Harness performance through teams (champion positive change, develop staff, create a culture without fear of retribution, actively listen and value contribution, empower staff, respect diversity)

Job holders are required to act in such a way that at all times the health and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults is safeguarded. Familiarisation with and adherence to the Safeguarding Policies of the Trust is an essential requirement for all employees. In addition all staff are expected to complete essential/mandatory training in this area.

Print Name:

Date:

Signature: