Job Description

Title: Principal Clinical Scientist

Band: 8a

Staff Group: Clinical Scientists (Medical Physics)

Reports to: Deputy Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics

Job Purpose:

- Ensuring continuity of cover by Medical Physics Experts for Nuclear Medicine/PET, in conjunction with the Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics and Bone Densitometry and the Deputy Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics.
- To act as Medical Physics Expert for Nuclear Medicine/PET, under the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations.
- Ensuring continuity of cover for scientific support by Clinical Scientists in Nuclear Medicine Physics, by deputising for the Deputy Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics.
- To maintain the Quality Management System, for areas of responsibility.
- To manage scientific work, for areas of responsibility.
- To train other Clinical Scientists, including Route 1 Trainee Clinical Scientists, Route 2 Trainee Clinical Scientists and Clinical Scientists.

Key Responsibilities

- For areas of responsibility, to manage scientific support provided by Clinical Scientists to Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust. Areas of responsibility being defined and delegated by the Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics and Bone Densitometry and the Deputy Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics.
- Entailing highly complex and highly specialised scientific support, for equipment management, radiodiagnostic tests and radiotherapeutic treatments. Ensuring scientific services are prioritised and performed, to required standards via responsive strategies, by organising own work and overseeing the work of Clinical Scientists.
- When discharging duties to communicate with members of multi-disciplinary teams, like clinicians, duty holders and managers, in consideration of different roles/responsibilities and different expertise/experiences, to ensure the optimal outcome for patients and services.
- For areas of responsibility, to maintain the Quality Management System (QMS), contributing to oversight of and participation in the review and revision of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). For example, incorporating guidance, policy and research.
- Under the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations, act as Medical Physics Expert for Nuclear Medicine/PET:
    - Support the submission of new/amendment applications for Employer/Practitioner Licences to Administration of Radioactive Substances Advisory Committee (ARSAC).
    - Advise on IR(ME)R procedures for unsealed source users, and conduct audits of compliance with IR(ME)R.
    - Advise on specification/tender, acceptance testing, routine testing and implementation of new equipment, for example, non-imaging equipment, imaging equipment and associated hardware/software.
    - Advise on implementation and optimisation of new techniques.
    - Oversee the optimisation of radiodiagnostic tests, for example, acquisition and processing parameters.

- Oversee the optimisation of radiotherapeutic treatments, for example, patient dosimetry, patient radiation risk assessments and procedures.
- Supporting clinical trials.

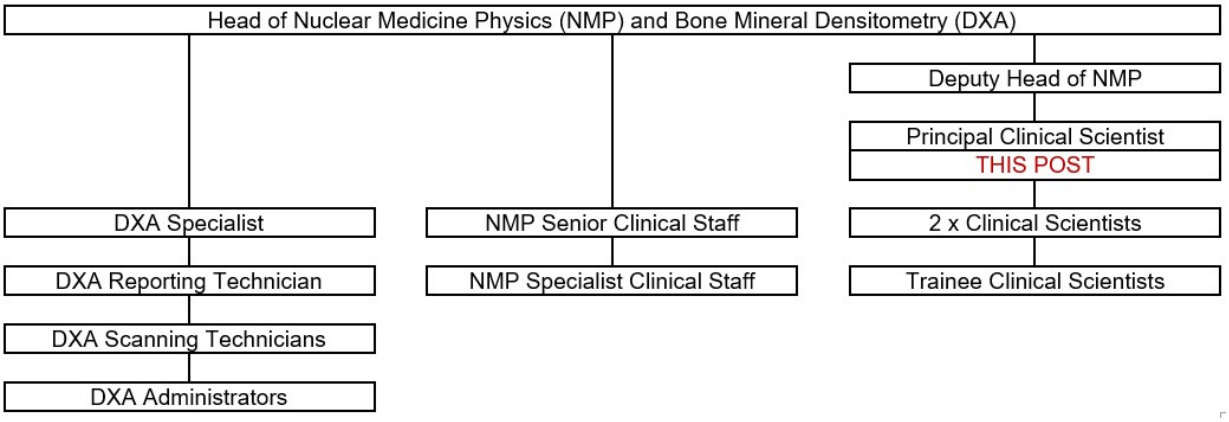
Responsibilities frequently require the analysis of highly complex issues in order to advise on multiple potential options, drawing on advanced theoretical knowledge and practical experience. Providing advice involves communicating highly complex information to other healthcare professionals and acting with limits of knowledge and skills. Clinical advice occasionally involves exposure to highly emotional circumstances.

- Under the Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations, act as operator for Nuclear Medicine Physics:
  - Authorisation and reporting as delegated by Practitioner.
  - Equipment Testing (e.g. Radionuclide Calibrators and Intraoperative Probes plus Gamma Cameras and PET-CT Scanners)
  - Non-Imaging Tests (e.g. Glomerular Filtration Rate Tests and Bile Acid Malabsorption Tests)
  - Radionuclide Treatments (e.g. Radioiodine Therapy for Thyroid Cancer)

Tasks frequently involve exposure to and handling of radioactive material (sealed sources and unsealed sources), requiring a high degree of manual dexterity and periods of prolonged concentration. Additionally, tasks occasionally involve exposure to and handling of bodily fluids and COSHH products. Work occasionally involves manual handling of bulky, heavy, inanimate objects and handling of patients. Clinical work frequently involves periods of prolonged concentration and occasionally involves exposure to emotional circumstances.

  - Regarding radiation protection, the postholder will adhere to and apply all trust policies and local procedures for:
  - The Environmental Permitting Regulations for the storage and use of radioactive materials and the accumulation and disposal of radioactive waste.
  - The Ionising Radiations Regulations for the protection of the public and staff.
  - The Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations for the protection of the patients.
- The postholder will adhere to and apply all trust policies and local procedures for health and safety, including moving and handling, infection control and COSHH, as applicable.
- Accurate and appropriate use of specialised complex software, including application software (e.g. Microsoft Office) and utility software (e.g. clinical applications).
- Supplies and services will be ordered and obtained, according to procedures for Medical Physics and Portsmouth University Hospitals NHS Trust.
- To support the training of Route 1/Route 2 Trainee Clinical Scientists in speciality of Nuclear Medicine/PET, per the requirements of the national schemes. Additionally, as required to support the training of Radiographers/Technologists in Nuclear Medicine Physics.
- To deliver training in Nuclear Medicine, PET and radiation protection to colleagues from different departments at Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust, and under contract with external providers, as applicable.
- Regarding Continuing Professional Development (CPD), to carry out CPD activities, to maintain professional registrations as a Clinical Scientist with the HCPC and a MPE with the RPA2000 company. Participate in the CPD Scheme provided by the Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine (IPEM).
- To provide lectures and supervise projects in Nuclear Medicine/PET, in collaboration with academic partners, like the University of Portsmouth.
- To propose and participate in research and development and publish and present at local and national level.

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

- Undergraduate Degree (BSc or MPhys) in Physics (Or Related Physical Science)
- Postgraduate Degree (MSc or MPhil) in Medical Physics
- Registration as Clinical Scientist with Health and Care Professions Council
- Registration as Medical Physics Expert with RPA2000

Desirable

- Postgraduate Doctorate (PhD or DPhil) in Medical Physics (Or Related Physical Science)
- Experience of training Clinical Scientists.
- Experience of managing Clinical Scientists.
- Planning, performing, publishing and presenting research.

Skills & Knowledge

Essential

- Ability to prioritise, plan and perform own work, to meet dynamic priorities of service.
- Ability to take initiative, lead and organise teamwork, to achieve long-term aims of service.
- Ability to work at sites in Portsmouth, and as applicable, elsewhere in Hampshire.
- Ability to communicate highly complex information, in verbal and written forms, to patients, professionals and public.
- Advanced theoretical knowledge and practical experience of Nuclear Medicine and PET.
- Application of theoretical knowledge and practical experience to practically solve problems.
- Highly developed physical dexterity and accurate data analysis for practical work.
- Application of radiation protection for safely working with ionising radiation.
- Advanced computational and numerical skills.

Desirable

- Interest in research and training.

Personal Qualities

- Flexibility regarding patterns of working, for example, occasional planned and unplanned early starts and late finishes.
- Flexibility regarding approach to arriving at optimal outcomes.
- Diplomacy and collaboration in multi-disciplinary team working.

Discretion and compassion in distressing emotional circumstances.

Working Together For Patients with Compassion as One Team Always Improving

Strategic approach (clarity on objectives, clear on expectations)

Relationship building (communicate effectively, be open and willing to help, courtesy, nurtures partnerships)

Personal credibility (visibility, approachable, back bone, courage, resilience, confidence, role model, challenge bad behaviour, manage poor performance, act with honesty and integrity)

Passion to succeed (patient centred, positive attitude, 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, feedback and empower staff, respect diversity)

Job holders are required to act in such a way that at all times the health and well-being 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: