

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

### JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>Job Title:</b>	Mental Health Liaison Nurse Specialist
<b>Band:</b>	6
<b>Hours per week:</b>	37.5 hours per week
<b>Location:</b>	NGH / KGH
<b>Responsible To:</b>	Liaison Service B7 nurse
<b>Accountable To:</b>	Community service manager

#### Job Summary:

The post holder will provide a lead specialist role of Mental Health Liaison Nurse for people (over 65 years) with mental health problems who are receiving care and treatment in Northampton/Kettering General Hospital. This will include undertaking nursing assessments of older people with complex needs, advising on treatment plans and planning packages of care with a range of other providers. The post holder will provide mental health nursing interventions to individuals as appropriate and provide an expert advisory role to colleagues in the General Hospital. The post holder will take a lead in the ongoing development of liaison service for older people in the acute general hospital.

#### Main Tasks:

##### Clinical

The post holder will:

Conduct Mental Health Nurse assessments of older people with mental health problems e.g. dementia, delirium and depression, within the General Hospital.

Will monitor and support current patients of CMHT's who are admitted to Northampton General Hospital.

Demonstrate and use specialist knowledge and skills to analyse complex health and care issues in order to inform clinical judgements

Recommend treatment plans for of older people with mental health problems. Evaluate and revise as necessary from information derived from a comprehensive assessment and reviews

Following comprehensive assessment, advice on discharge plans and long term care plans for of older people with mental health problems, evaluate and revise as necessary.

Direct clinical teams within the acute setting to reduce the medical complications from excessive use of psychotropic medication (reduced blood pressure, falls, cardiac events, deaths) by providing advice and supporting the use of appropriate interventions for older people who present with complex or challenging behaviours.

Will provide an expert resource by advising and supporting use of the Mental Health Act, Mental Capacity Act and CPA as they affect older people in the General Hospital

Aid the multidisciplinary team to deliver treatment and care packages that reduce the number of inappropriate or unnecessary admissions into permanent care (i.e. Nursing Homes).

Identify suitable candidates for interim and intermediate care following comprehensive assessment.

Liaise with and support families, carers of older people with complex physical and mental health needs throughout the decision making process regarding implementation on care packages to meet identified needs.

Provide, where appropriate short-term community support upon discharge or leave from the General Hospital where this would facilitate smooth integration back into the community.

Facilitate patients' access of specialist mental health service in the community upon discharge from the General Hospital

Refer patients for assessment by a psychiatrist from the relevant locality Community Mental Health Team (CMHT) if the assessment by the OPMHLN or referral information indicates this is required.

### **Communication**

The postholder will:

Develop, maintain and enhance effective working relationships with the General Hospital.

Communicate complex information to patients, carers, families, members of the MDT and other professionals.

Provide specialist knowledge and clinical skills to generate reports.

Maintain effective links with integrated Community Mental Health Teams (CMHT) and inpatient Mental Health service.

Maintain effective communication with members of the integrated team, patients, carers, Hospital and Community Care Management Teams and relevant voluntary organisations.

Provide regular, timely statistical returns in keeping with Trust requirements including electronic records and activity data

Collect, collate, evaluate and report information, maintaining accurate patient records

Share information with appropriate others, observing data protection guidelines.

Will be proficient in the use of IT programmes and systems.

### **Managerial/ Leadership**

Work autonomously in liaison with the wider multi disciplinary team within Mental Health and the Acute Hospital.

Accept referral from health and social care professional within the General Hospital.

Prioritise own workload, to ensure older people receive effective timely assessment and care.

Provide specialist expert clinical knowledge to clinical colleagues, patients and carers/relatives.

Inform the integrated team leader of any implications for resource management in relation to service provision.

Ensure effective and efficient use of resources.

Contribute to the development of operational policies and procedures for the implementation of Mental Health Liaison Specialist Nurse service that incorporated evidence based practices and ensure effective and responsive to the delivery of care.

Contribute to the development of the service, updating policy and procedures to maintain evidence based practice, with the integrated team lead.

### **Education and Development**

Direct and explain the role of the Mental Health Liaison Specialist Nurse to clients and their families, visitors, students and other professionals.

Promote health education and facilitate appropriate education/training on mental health issues for patients and relatives to encourage optimum self-care on discharge where appropriate.

Participate in Supervision and KSF Appraisals ensuring that the objectives set reflect the Service and Trust plans, including specific objectives relating to Mental Health Liaison Specialist Nurse role.

### **Audit and Research**

Develop appropriate systems to ensure that statistical information is collected and communicated to the key stake holders which will inform future development of Older Persons Mental Health Liaison services.

Take the lead and contribute to appropriate research activity to inform future development and evaluation of the service.

### **Additional Information**

#### **Confidentiality**

All staff are required to respect the confidentiality of all Trust business and the business of the Trust's staff, residents, patients and general public which they may learn in the execution of their duties.

### **Data Protection**

All staff are expected to adhere to the regulations regarding the Data Protection Act 1984 as laid down by Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

### **Infection Control**

The prevention and control of healthcare associated infections in service users, staff and visitors is taken seriously by the Trust. All staff employed by Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust are required to adhere to the Trust infection control policies and procedures.

Employees must be aware of the importance of protecting themselves, service users and visitors and of maintaining a clean safe environment. Any breach in infection control practice, which places service users, other staff or visitor at risk, may result in disciplinary actions.

Each staff member is responsible for ensuring they identify together with their manager, their infection control training needs in their PDP.

### **Health And Safety**

To carry out the duties placed on employees by the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 i.e.

- I. To take reasonable care for the Health and Safety of themselves and of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work.
- II. To co-operate with their employer as far as is necessary to meet the requirements of the legislation.
- III. Not to intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse anything provided in the interest of health, safety or welfare in the pursuance of any relevant statutory provision.

### **No Smoking**

In order to protect the health of employees, patients and visitors, Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust operates a No Smoking Policy. Therefore smoking is prohibited in all of the Trust's buildings, grounds and all Trust-owned or leased vehicles.

### **Equality And Diversity**

To ensure that all duties are carried out to the highest possible standard, and in accordance with current quality initiatives within the area of work and the Trust Managing Diversity and Equal Opportunities in Employment Policy.

### **Risk Management**

To have a commitment to identifying and minimising risk, report all incidents and report to manager any risks, which need to be assessed.

### **Professional Registration**

All qualified / professional staff are required to adhere to the relevant Code of Practice (and other guidance issued by them). It is the responsibility of the individual concerned to keep professionally registered and updated in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Code of Practice and to follow guidance issues by the professional body.

### **Policies And Procedures**

The post holder is expected to comply with all relevant Trust policies, procedures and guidelines. Any contravention of the Trust Policies or managerial instruction may result in disciplinary action being initiated.

This post is subject to the terms and conditions of employment of Northamptonshire Healthcare Trust

### **Review Of Job Description/Person Specification**

This is not an exhaustive list of duties and responsibilities, but indicates the key responsibilities of the post. The post holder may be required to undertake other duties as may reasonably be required of you commensurate with your grade and/or hours of work at your initial place of work or at any other of the Trust's establishments.

**NOTE:** This is a description of the job as it is at present constituted. It is the practice of this Trust regularly to examine employee's job descriptions and to up-date them to ensure that they relate to the job as then being performed, or to incorporate whatever changes are being proposed. This procedure is jointly conducted by each manager and those working directly to him or her. You will, therefore, be expected to participate fully in such discussions and, in connection to them, to re-write your job description to bring it up-to-date if this is considered necessary or desirable. It is the Trust's aim to reach agreement on reasonable changes, but if agreement is not possible the Trust reserves the right to effect changes to your job description after consultation with you. Appropriate notice of such changes will be given.

### **Working Conditions**

The post holder will be based at Kettering/Northampton General Hospital.

### **Employee/Managers Signature**

I agree that this Job Description is a true reflection of the main duties and competencies required to carry out my role:

Employee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Managers Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_