

St Francis Hospice Dublin

JOB DESCRIPTION

Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Community Palliative Care

QUALIFICATIONS:	Registered Nurse Minimum of 5 years post registration experience 2 Years' experience of Palliative Care Higher Diploma/Masters in Palliative Care is essential (level 9 - NFQ)
JOB TITLE:	Clinical Nurse Specialist in Community Palliative Care.
GRADE:	CNS equivalent to C.N.M.2
LOCATION:	St. Francis Hospice, Dublin
WHOLE TIME:	39 hour week, inclusive of weekends on call and on call evenings up to 9 pm.
REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:	Community Palliative Care Team Leader Medical Director on clinical matters
PROFESSIONALLY ACCOUNTABLE TO:	Director of Nursing/Asst. Director of Nursing.

Summary of the Role

The Clinical Nurse Specialist is a key member of the multidisciplinary team providing an effective and efficient Specialist Palliative Care Service in North Dublin City and County. The CNS will be working in conjunction with the multidisciplinary team and will have extensive experience and advance expertise in the delivery of Specialist Palliative Care.

Principle Duties and Responsibilities

Clinical Focus ***The Clinical Nurse Specialist Palliative Care will:***

1. To manage a clinical caseload in relation to providing specialist advice, care and support for people with life limiting illnesses and their families/friends in the community in North Dublin.
2. Have the clinical and theoretical knowledge required to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the CNS role.
3. Have knowledge of clinical developments in the Specialist area.
4. Participate as a team member in all aspects of patient care. Facilitate co-ordination and co-operation across health care teams.
5. Provide care that is evidenced based to all patients requiring specialist palliative care
6. Promote evidence-based decision making; and demonstrate an evidence-based clinical knowledge to support decisions made with regards to patient care.
7. Be aware of legislation and standards relevant to their role.
8. Show effective analytical, problem solving skills.
9. Practice nursing in accordance with the professional code laid down by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI). Fulfil the professional responsibility of his / her scope of practice.
10. Assess, plan and initiate care and treatment modalities within agreed multidisciplinary protocols to achieve patient centred outcomes.
11. Evaluate the effectiveness of the care and treatment provided.
12. Attend and contribute to weekly Multidisciplinary meetings.
13. Contribute information and support on all aspects of care to patients and their families/carers.
14. Identify health promotion priorities in the area of specialist practice.
15. Implement health promotion strategies for patient/client groups in accordance with the health agenda.

Patient Advocate***The Clinical Nurse Specialist Palliative Care will:***

1. Participate in case conferences on the patient's progress and attending meetings as required.
2. Enable patients/clients, families and communities to participate in decisions about their health needs.
3. Articulate and represent patient/client interests in collaboration with the multidisciplinary team.
4. Act as a resource contact person for patients, families/carers ensuring that instructions are regarding investigation and follow up are clearly understood.
5. Implement changes in healthcare service in response to patient/client need and service demand.

Management***The Clinical Nurse Specialist Palliative Care will:***

1. Provide an efficient, effective, and high quality service, respecting the needs of each patient/client.
2. Have the ability to lead on clinical practice and service quality.
3. Effectively manage time and caseload in order to meet the needs of a changing and developing service.
4. Be aware of budgetary issues and resource allocation- all the time striving for value for money.
5. Continually monitor the service to ensure it reflects current needs.
6. Implement and manage identified changes
7. Ensure that confidentiality in relation to patient/client records is maintained.
8. Maintain accurate and up to date statistics of the service provided, including audit of patient/client contacts.
9. Represent the specialist service at local, national and international meetings as required.

10. Maintain accurate and contemporaneous records/data on all matters pertaining to the planning, management, delivery and evaluation of this service in line with HSE requirements.

Education and Training ***The Clinical Nurse Specialist Palliative Care will:***

1. Be committed to continuing professional development.
2. Promote a progressive learning environment based on high quality, research based nursing care.
3. Provide mentorship, preceptorship, teaching, facilitation and professional supervisory skills for nurses and other healthcare workers.
4. Educate patients/clients, families and communities in relation to their healthcare needs in the specialist area of practice.
5. Identify own continuing professional development needs and engage accordingly.
6. Show a willingness to engage in and develop IT skills relevant to the role.

Audit and Research ***The Clinical Nurse Specialist Palliative Care will:***

1. Keep up to date with current research and practice.
2. The ability to relate nursing research to nursing practice
3. Identify, critically analyse, disseminate and integrate nursing and other evidence into the area of specialist practice.
4. Have knowledge of quality assurance practices.
5. Initiate and participate in evaluations and audits
6. Use the outcomes of audit to improve service provision
7. Contribute to service planning and budgetary processed through use of audit data and specialist knowledge.

Consultant***The Clinical Nurse Specialist Palliative Care will:***

1. Provide leadership in clinical practice and act as a resource and role model for specialist practice.
2. Generate and contribute to the development of clinical standards of practice and guidelines.
3. Use specialist knowledge to support and enhance generalist nursing practice.

Health & Safety***The Clinical Nurse Specialist Palliative Care will:***

1. Contribute to the development of policies, procedures, guidelines as required and to follow hospice policy to ensure safe professional practice.
2. Assist in observing and ensuring implementation and adherence to established policies and procedures e.g. health and safety, infection control.
3. Adhere to relevant legislation, regulations and standards in the delivery of service.
4. Ensure the effective safety procedures are developed and managed to comply with statutory obligations, in conjunction with relevant staff e.g. health and safety procedures.
5. Assist in observing and ensuring implementation and adherence to established policies and procedures e.g. health and safety, infection control.

This job description is a guide to the general range of duties assigned to the post holder. It is intended to be neither definitive nor restrictive and is subject to periodic review with the employee concerned

