Specialist Pharmacist – Outpatient Rheumatology and Bone Health

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| Job title: | Specialist Pharmacist – Outpatient Rheumatology & Bone Health |
| Organisation: | Pennine MSK Partnership |
| Department: | Rheumatology & Bone Health |
| Location: | Oldham Integrated Care Centre, New Radcliffe Street, Oldham OL1 1NL |
| Reporting to: | Clinical Governance Lead and Specialist Pharmacist Rheumatology |
| Accountable to: | Lead Director |
| Job purpose: | The postholder will provide advanced pharmaceutical care to patients attending outpatient Rheumatology and Bone Health clinics. They will work as an independent prescriber to optimise management of long-term rheumatological conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, psoriatic arthritis, and other musculoskeletal diseases.  Working collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team, the pharmacist will support safe and effective use of high-cost drugs, promote best practice in prescribing and contribute to service development initiatives. |
| Role and Responsibilities: | **Clinical Responsibilities**   * Undertake independent prescribing for rheumatology and bone health patients in line with clinical guidelines. * Provide expert medicines optimisation and clinical advice to patients and healthcare professionals. * Monitor and review treatment effectiveness, side effects, and adherence in line with local and national protocols. * Manage treatment pathways including biologics, DMARDs and bone health medications. * Deliver structured medication reviews and shared decision-making consultations.   **Governance**   * Ensure safe, legal, and cost-effective prescribing aligned with local formulary and NICE guidance. * Participate in risk assessments, audits, and service evaluations. * Maintain accurate clinical documentation in electronic patient records.   **Education and Training:**   * To contribute to research and audit ensuring findings are reported both at a local and national level as appropriate. * To liaise with the research team on legal, ethical, professional and cost aspects of proposed clinical trials within the specialist service. * To contribute to the training and development of multi-disciplinary team across the service through the provision of expert pharmacy advice including workshops / teaching sessions. * To undertake continuing professional development to identify and address learning needs.   **Service Development:**   * To contribute to the development of clinical pathways, PGDs, or QI initiatives within rheumatology/bone health. * Liaise with commissioners or specialist networks around high-cost drug reporting and optimisation.   **General Responsibilities**   * To ensure that risk is managed in all elements of work including the reporting of patient safety events, near misses and hazards in line with Pennine MSK Partnership policy and that appropriate actions are put into place where required. * To maintain the highest standards of communication, written and verbal, with patients and colleagues ensuring satisfactory and timely resolution of queries whilst upholding confidentiality in accordance with Data Protection Act 1998. * To demonstrate responsibility for promoting and championing all aspects of equal opportunities by valuing diversity in all areas of work. * To maintain accurate and contemporaneous records in line with Pennine MSK Partnership policy. * To take responsibility for ensuring and achieving the objectives of the Pennine MSK Partnership Health and Safety Policy. * To undertake any other duties in order to meet personal, team and organisational objectives following consultation with your manager.   **Safeguarding**  Pennine MSK is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of adults at risk and children; enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect.     * All our employees are required to act in such a way that at all times safeguards the health and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. Familiarisation with and adherence to our Safeguarding policies is an essential requirement of all employees, as is participation in related mandatory/statutory training.      * You must be aware of your responsibilities and adhere to Local Safeguarding Children’s Board and Local Safeguarding Adult Board Procedures for Safeguarding and Protecting Children which are available on our shared drive. It is the responsibility of all staff to report any concerns and who to contact within the service for further help and guidance (Andy Swan is the service Safeguarding and Prevent Lead).   **Equality Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)**  We are proud to be an equal opportunities employer and are fully committed to EDI best practice in all we do.  Vita Health Group has several initiatives in place to achieve this including our Zero Tolerance Policy, Code of Conduct, Freedom to Speak Up Guardians, and more. We believe it is the responsibility of everyone to ensure their actions support this goal with all internal and external stakeholders.   * Be aware of the impact of your behaviour on others. * Ensure that others are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect. * Maintain and develop your knowledge about what EDI is and why it is important. * Be prepared to challenge bias, discrimination, and prejudice when possible, and raise with your manager, the EDI & Sustainability team, or the Freedom to Speak Up Guardians. * Encourage and support others to feel confident in speaking up if they have been subjected to or witnessed bias, discrimination, or prejudice. * Be prepared to speak up for others if you witness bias, discrimination, or prejudice.   *This job description does not attempt to describe all the tasks the post holder will undertake, it does, however, indicate the degree of authority, range of duties covered and the flexibility required for the job.*  *This job description may be amended in consultation with the post holder as developments evolve, and as part of the appraisal process.* |

## Person specification

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|  | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Qualifications** | * Master’s degree in pharmacy or equivalent * Membership of the General Pharmaceutical Council of Great Britain * Postgraduate qualification in clinical pharmacy or equivalent competency * Independent prescribing qualification | * Member of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society |
| **Experience/knowledge** | * 2+ years post-registration * Committed to continuing professional development * Knowledge of Microsoft Office * Committed to continuing professional development | * Post registration clinical pharmacy practice experience within clinical specialty (rheumatology/ bone health) * Experience in managing long-term conditions * Rheumatology or bone health experience * Experience using DMARDs, biologics and high-cost drugs * Experience of planning, delivering, and reporting audit and research projects * Experience in a community setting |
| **Skills** | * Excellent clinical knowledge of relevant therapeutic areas * Understanding of NICE, BSR, and local prescribing guidance * Strong communication and consultation skills * Ability to work autonomously * Good Interpersonal Skills * Able to work to tight deadlines * Personal Organisational abilities * Familiarity with SystmOne, ePMA, JAC, or other prescribing or patient management systems |  |
| **Personal competencies and qualities** | * Enthusiastic, motivated * Patient Focused * Innovative * Empathic * Flexible * Team player |  |

# Version Control

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| Version: | Date: | Summary of Changes |
| V1.1 | 03.12.19 | Document copied onto authorised VHG branded Policy Template (original had no coding) |
| V1.2 | 06/08/20 | Updated to include diversity and inclusion statement |
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