Rheumatology Nurse

## Job details

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| Job title: | Rheumatology Nurse |
| Department: | NHS MSK service – Pennine MSK |
| Location: | Pennine MSK Partnership, Oldham Integrated Care Centre, Oldham |
| Reporting to: (Job title only) | Lead Rheumatology Nurse |
| Direct reports: (Job title only) | N/A |
| Job purpose: | * The purpose of the role is to facilitate in the delivery of specialist nursing care for patients with rheumatological conditions including osteoporosis, providing a service within a primary care setting. It is expected that the individual will work as a clinical expert and role model and provide practice development and leadership within a multi-disciplinary environment.
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| Role and Responsibilities: | KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS* Be a registered general nurse.
* Practice as an autonomous advanced practitioner, demonstrating advanced clinical competence and utilising highly specialised knowledge and skills to plan, deliver and evaluate programmes of care for rheumatology patients including osteoporosis.
* Have the ability to make clinical decisions within guidelines on the management, treatment and care of patients with Rheumatological conditions.
* Safely administer and adjust disease modifying drugs in order to treat to target and maintain patient safety according to locally agreed protocols.
* Be responsible for a caseload of complex patients, with the aim of delivering the best possible outcome.
* Work with patients and voluntary organisations to promote self-management.
* Employ advanced communication skills to communicate complex, sensitive and challenging information to patients and their families in ways that convey empathy and facilitate shared clinical decision making and motivational interviewing.

CLINICAL* Provide a nurse led services for patients with Rheumatological conditions including osteoporosis.
* Provide highly specialist skills in the assessment and management of patients with a Rheumatological condition.
* Provide highly specialist care for patients requiring conventional DMARD treatments and biologic therapies and when appropriate make alterations to the drug dosage using current protocols.
* Make appropriate referrals to other health care professions and outside agencies when required.
* Provide a high standard of care for patients with acute flares in disease activity and if necessitated arrange emergency treatment.
	+ Order and interpret investigations as and when appropriate.
	+ Facilitate a telephone advice line service.

PROFESSIONAL ROLE* Ensure evidence-based protocols and guidelines are in place, understood and are regularly updated to reflect developing practice.
* Promote and encourage innovative nursing practice to improve patient centred care.
* Provide information and advice to health care professionals demonstrating advanced clinical knowledge, judgment, and decision-making.

EDUCATION* Be responsible for maintaining a personal professional profile and pursuing own professional development.
* Identify and respond to the learning needs of patients, health care professionals and teams across the organisation.
* Establish training programmes and education for other health care professionals to enhance skills in assessing and managing Rheumatological patients including osteoporosis.
* Provide opportunity for observation of therapeutic interaction within the clinical setting for medical students and AHP students.
* Provide individual and group education programmes for patients with Rheumatological disease and their cares.
* Develop study opportunities for community nurses.

PRACTICE, RESEARCH AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT* Participate in the assessment and evaluation of Rheumatological services within Pennine MSK Partnership.
* Participate in policy developments for Rheumatological services within Pennine MSK Partnership.
* Participate in audit programmes and in research, including implementing change as part of the audit cycle.
* Participate in the producing and updating as appropriate policies for the nursing care of patients with Rheumatological conditions including osteoporosis.
* Actively contribute to regional and national conferences to enhance the quality of nursing care for patients with Rheumatological conditions.

TEAM WORKING* Promote multidisciplinary working and ensure good working relationships with all disciplines and grades of staff.
* Ensure personal performance and development reviewed at least annually by the utilisation of performance development plan.
* Ensure that the cohesive working of the team reflects evidence-based practice.

MANAGEMENT* Effectively use financial resources within area of responsibility.
* Contribute to the business planning process.
* Ensure there is effective communication and information within sphere of responsibility, across Pennine MSK Partnership and with other agencies.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES* To ensure that risk is managed in all elements of work including the reporting of Critical Incidents, near misses and hazards in line with Pennine MSK Partnership Ltd 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 and leadership 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 Ltd policy.
* To take responsibility for ensuring and achieving the objectives of the Pennine MSK Partnership Ltd Health and Safety Policy.
* To undertake any other duties to meet personal, team and organisational objectives following consultation with your manager.

*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.***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.
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| Clinical Governance:(where applicable) |  |
| Training and supervision: |  |
| Additional information: |  |

## Person specification

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|  | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Qualifications** | * + First level registered nurse
	+ Evidence of continuing professional development
 | * + Relevant Master’s degree
	+ Relevant degree
	+ Independent Prescribing
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| **Experience** | * + Post registration Rheumatology experience
	+ Awareness of clinical governance issues and initiatives
	+ Has experience of writing policies, protocols, and guidelines.
	+ Is aware of the ethical and legal issues involved in enhanced nursing roles.
	+ Detailed knowledge of Nursing & Midwifery code of conduct and profession practice
 | * + Experience in a senior post for at least 2 years
	+ At least 5 years post registration
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| **Skills/knowledge** | * + Good written and oral communication skills
	+ Computer literacy
	+ Knowledge of disease assessment tools and evaluation skills
	+ Understanding of drugs used in the management of patients with Rheumatological conditions and the knowledge and skills required to screen and monitor for these therapies safely.
	+ Manage own time effectively.
	+ Use information effectively in decision-making.
	+ Good motivator of people
	+ Problem solving ability.
	+ Good organisational skills
 | * + Carry out intra-articular and soft tissue injections accurately.
	+ Ability to undertake audit and research effectively and apply to practice.
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| **Personal competencies and qualities** | * + Diplomatic – sensitive to the needs of colleagues and employers.
	+ Ability to manage own workload and work.
	+ independently when needed.
	+ Ability to work under pressure.
	+ Proactive, team orientated but is also able to work well on own.
	+ Should demonstrate self-confidence and be self-motivated.
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# Version Control

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| Author: | MSK Market Director | Version: | V1.1 | Status: | PUBLISHED |
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| Version: | Date: | Summary of Changes |
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