

**Job Description**

**Post:** Persistent Pain Specialist Occupational Therapist

**Grade:** 7

**Responsible To:** Lead Physiotherapist

**Hours:** At least 3 days (22.5 hours) can discuss more if interested

**Mission Statement**

We will keep the patient at the heart of everything that we do by providing outstanding care and support to every patient, every time.

### Job Summary

PMSK was established in 2006 and is a centre of excellence in Oldham for Rheumatology, Orthopaedics, Musculoskeletal medicine and Persistent Pain. We pride ourselves on our high-quality personalised service delivery and the calibre and dedication of our staff. Progression and education are also at the heart of our service with regular departmental and whole team education and supportive events. We are community based with outpatient clinics. We are part of the VITA Healthcare Group and SPIRE HealthCare.

To be a highly specialist pain practitioner to patients referred to the Persistent Pain Pathway. To establish and develop the role of the occupational therapist within our persistent pain service.

To provide clinical leadership and service development to the pain service and to the wider Adult Musculo-Skeletal service as required.

The post integrates expert clinical practice, training and education, service development and research and audit activity.

It is supporting a wider pain MDT including specialist physiotherapists, specialist nurses, GP with special interest, Psychiatry, Psychology & CBT. We place a strong emphasis on understanding Persistent Pain through a biopsychosocial model and encourage team members to employ psychologically informed approaches.

A high level of knowledge in the management of patients with musculoskeletal conditions and persistent pain, experience of liaison across various health care teams and evidence of autonomous decision making are essential.

You will have excellent organisational skills, be an effective team player and have a

flexible approach to service delivery. You will have a strong commitment to CPD and your clinical and professional development will be supported through regular appraisals and training.

**Key Duties and Responsibilities**

**Clinical:**

* To complete complex, holistic biopsychosocial assessments of patients living in persistent pain.
* To explain persistent pain to patients, families and carers and its multifactorial nature.
* To lead patients through a functional educational programme including exercise and educational elements (which include sleep hygiene, pacing, understanding pain, managing flare ups, work advice, effects of mood on pain) in both 1 to 1 and in class environments.
* To develop the group content of the functional rehabilitation programme from an occupational therapy point of view.
* To identify and refer on patients that would be appropriate for input with the persistent pain specialist nurses, physiotherapists, talking therapists, GP with a special interest in pain and social prescribing. You will also identify patients who may be appropriate for procedural input with a pain consultant and formulate the appropriate information to make this referral.
* To be apart of the persistent pain MDT which includes pain specialist physiotherapist, pain specialist nurses, CBT therapist, psychologist, GPSI in persistent pain.
* To identify mental health risk in patients and refer/manage appropriately with the support of the wider MDT with appropriate training.
* To give advanced clinical advice, support and training to patients, families, carers and professional colleagues to improve their journey and their health and wellbeing.
* To work autonomously to manage a complex caseload with time, whilst working as part of a multidisciplinary team
* To use highly complex communication skills and knowledge when working with patients, their families and external agencies
* To gain consent for treatment and motivate patients to comply with treatment plans, whilst complying with the mental capacity act, and gaining informed consent as and when required.
* To undertake and implement highly specialist clinical assessment and intervention, taking into consideration clinical reasoning, for patients with diverse presentations and highly complex needs.
* To provide appropriate verbal and written information and documentation for patients, carers and the wider multidisciplinary team in a timely manner, in line with professional standards and local procedures and policies
* To empower patients to effectively self-manage their conditions through advice, education and coping strategies

**Practice and Service Development**

* To develop and maintain personal clinical skills through supervision and a personal development plan.
* To maintain an up-to-date knowledge of current developments within the NHS and Occupational therapy.
* To participate in working parties and developing policy changes within Pennine MSK Partnership.
* To be responsible for ensuring that quality standards and effectiveness of patient care are continually improved.
* To work with the team to develop the strategic and operational direction for the persistent pain pathway within the organisation.

**Education**

* Lifelong learning is an essential part of the service and participation in departmental and team education sessions.
* To deliver relevant training to patient, carers and other health care professionals within Pennine MSK
* To supervise junior staff, providing timely verbal and written feedback
* Provide opportunity for observation of therapeutic intervention within the clinical setting for medical students and AHP students
* To attend and contribute to local and national conference and special interest groups within sphere of practice
* To maintain own CPD, through reflective practice and extending external courses deemed necessary by Pennine MSK Partnership and support other staff through their CPD
* To actively participate in Journal club and persistent pain MDT.

**Clinical Governance, Research and audit**

* To be HCPC registered and work within code of Conduct
* To work within local and national clinical guidelines and standards of care
* To participate in the assessment and evaluation of musculoskeletal services within Pennine MSK Partnership in line with current best practice guidelines
* To conduct yearly audits, actively participate in research and implement change as part of the audit cycle
* To network with colleagues within the trust, across the North West and nationally, to learn together and share good practice
* Participate in policy development and updating policies.
* To complete mandatory training in a timely manner
* To attend MDT meetings

## General Responsibilities

* To establish, maintain and develop professional working relationships with colleagues
* To participate in yearly appraisals with line manager, and complete with junior staff
* To be aware of and work within internal policies and protocols
* To gain appropriate support from senior colleagues and participate in supervision/peer review to enhance clinical practice
* 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 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).

*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.*



Persistent Pain Specialist Physiotherapist

Person Specification

# Education/Qualifications

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criteria | Essential | Desirable | Evidence |
| Degree or diploma in Occupational Therapy recognised by RCOT | **✓** |  | **AF** |
| HPC registration | **✓** |  | **AF** |
| Post graduate training relating to Persistent Pain conditions |  | **✓** | **AF** |
| Evidence of continued professional development | **✓** |  | **AF** |
| Member of a persistent pain interest Group |  | **✓** | **AF** |

# Experience

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criteria | Essential | Desirable | Evidence |
| Extensive post graduate experience some of which must have been within the NHS | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| At least 2 years experience in persistent pain/rheumatology/orthopaedics | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Experience in primary care and secondary care organisations |  | **✓** | **AF/I** |
| Experience of working with patients with persistent pain using a biopsychosocial approach | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Experience of training staff of all levels |  | **✓** | **AF/I** |
| Experience working and training across multi-disciplinary team | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Experience of working with  medical colleagues | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Experience of supervision and team management |  | **✓** | **AF/I** |
| Understanding of clinical  governance | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Experience of leading clinical  governance initiatives |  | **✓** | **I** |
| Experience of using research  and other evidence to inform  practice | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |

**Skills and Abilities**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criteria | Essential | Desirable | Evidence |
| Ability to take a lead role in MDT |  | **✓** | **I** |
| Able to demonstrate excellent communication skills | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Adaptable and supportive of change | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Excellent problem solving and clinical reasoning skills | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Published problem solving analyses e.g. case histories |  | **✓** | **AF/I** |
| Excellent time management Skills | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Competent IT skills | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Understanding of common conditions within persistent pain, rheumatology and orthopaedics and the knowledge and skills to diagnose and manage these appropriately | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Remains updated in professional practice and NHS developments | **✓** |  | **AF/I** |
| Good organisational Skills | **✓** |  |  |
| Excellent presentation skills |  | **✓** | **I** |
| Ability to effectively promote service and role to external agencies |  | **✓** | **I** |

**Personal and professional presentation**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criteria | Essential | Desirable | Evidence |
| Ability to develop others | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Able to work as team member | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Punctual and reliable | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Versatile and flexible | **✓** |  | **I** |
| Good Health record/physically fit and able to carry out moderate to intense physical effort throughout the day | **✓** |  | **AF** |

*AF = Application Form I = Interview*