PTS Mental Health Practitioner – Risk Lead

## Job details

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| Job title: | PTS Mental Health Practitioner – Risk Lead |
| Department: | Corporate - PTS |
| Location: | Remote |
| Reporting to:  (job title only) | PTS Clinical Lead |
| Direct reports:  (job title only) | N/A |
| Accountable to:  (where applicable) | PTS Service Lead |
| Responsible to:  (where applicable) | PTS Clinical Lead |
| Job purpose: | To work as a member of the PTS clinical team as a Senior Risk Practitioner. To provide clinical leadership and support to PTS clinicians about all aspects of clinical risk, supporting robust risk management and safeguarding processes across the service.  To provide mental health and risk assessments to service users, screening for suitability and to make onward referrals to specialist services, including secondary care mental health services where appropriate.    To promote safety and protect vulnerable adults and children, in line with local safeguarding policies and procedures, including sharing information and/or making referrals to safeguarding teams, as appropriate.  To provide guidance and informal supervision to other members of the clinical team including CBT Therapists, counsellors and PWPs, particularly in relation to severe and enduring mental health presentations/acute risk.  To support with the management of referrals into psychiatry pathway.  The service welcomes applicants who have significant experience of managing risk and a working knowledge of primary and secondary mental health care services. This may include inpatient, community or more specialist services such as drug and alcohol teams or perinatal teams. We would also welcome applicants with experience with risk management in adult and/or child safeguarding teams. |
| Role and Responsibilities: | Clinical Responsibilities:   * + To act as a mental health resource to the PTS service by offering advice and support for the assessment and management of clients with severe and enduring mental health difficulties/acute risk.   + Risk assessing patients; referring on to other agencies; advising and supporting practitioners seeking advice about suicide risk and safeguarding concerns, ensuring risk is managed in line with service policies and procedures; screening referrals for treatment suitability   + Work closely with clinical staff to ensure that decision making is informed by expert risk management advice and appropriate outcomes are achieved for patients. This will include supporting clinical staff to positively risk manage, where appropriate, and work collaboratively with patients in developing safety plans   + Provide a visible presence within the team, ensuring that all staff are adhering to, and incorporating risk policy and practice guidance within clinical area   + Supporting clinical staff to safely work collaboratively with patients in safety planning to ensure focus on a patient’s strengths and suitability for treatment   + Intervene and escalate appropriately when required.   + Assist in the provision of support, debriefing/supervision for staff involved in managing risk.   + To provide overall liaison between VHG and specified NHS secondary care mental health services for clients known to secondary services. This may involve liaising with care co-ordinators and members mental health services, as well as with social services and other agencies.   + To support with the Psychiatry pathway involving assessing referrals for suitability and case management of open cases.   + To participate in multi-disciplinary professional case discussion meetings.   + Establish and maintain working relationships with individuals and agencies working in the field of mental health.   + To maintain accurate electronic patient notes in line with guidance and The Data Protection Act.   + To support in completing clinical risk audits and feedback to PTS clinicians.   + Assist in the induction of new staff.   + To uphold the principles of the relevant Code of Professional Conduct.   + To undertake relevant training and education courses to keep up to date with professional developments and practices.   Other Responsibilities:   * + To carry out your duties and responsibilities at all times with adherence to VHG policies and procedures, in particular those relating to Equality and Diversity, Safeguarding, Data Protection, and Health and Safety   + Ensure effective communications between teams and service managers, and with colleagues across VHG to ensure service activity is effectively co-ordinated   + Support the Team Managers, Service Managers, Service and Clinical leads in development and implementation of service delivery plans   + Contribute to identifying trends/ themes and escalating to the Duty and Risk 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. We believe it is the responsibility of everyone to ensure their actions support this 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 if possible to do so and raise with your manager and EDI team * 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 |
| Clinical Governance:  (where applicable) |  |
| Training and supervision: | * To undertake ongoing professional development in line with business requirements * Maintain and develop clinical knowledge and clinical expertise. * Fulfil your professional code of conduct and follow ethical guidelines in your professional work. |
| Additional information: | * + The role requires being part of an on-call rota. |

## Person specification

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|  | **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| **Qualifications** | * + RMN, Mental Health Social Worker, Mental Health Occupational Therapist   + Current registration with NMC or HCPC | * A certificate/diploma in Counselling or other psychotherapy equivalent * Accredited Membership of BACP, BABCP, UKCP, BCP or NCS. * Qualification in people management or other management or leadership qualification |
| **Experience** | * + Demonstrable post qualification experience in mental health.   + Experience of working with people with acute and long-term mental health problems in a community setting.   + Experience of assessing multiple presentations of risk.   + Experience of working with people in acute mental distress.   + Experience of working as part of a multi- disciplinary team   + Experience of making full psychosocial assessments.   + Experience of managing risk within an ethical, accountable, and safe clinical governance structure. | * + Experience of supervising counselling/therapy students, trainees and/or staff   + Experience of delivering risk/ safeguarding supervision.   + Experience of implementing and coordinating risk procedures within a team. |
| **Skills/knowledge** | * To engage with people with mental health problems, assess their needs, design and deliver appropriate interventions and evaluate the effectiveness care provided. * To communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing. * To work effectively as part of a team * To ability to work and act independently. * Effective time management * To use supervision positively and effectively * Understanding of adult and child safeguarding | * Knowledge of the socio-economic factors in relation to mental health problems * Knowledge of current pharmacological approaches to treatment in mental health * Knowledge of current developments in mental health and social care * Specialist knowledge of adult and children safeguarding practice and legislation. |
| **Specialist training** | Not applicable. |  |
| **Personal competencies and qualities** | * Excellent verbal and written communication skills * High level of enthusiasm and motivation * Ability to work under pressure * Excellent time management skills * Excellent ability to prioritise workload when have competing priorities and to work flexibly and to tight deadlines. |  |

## Version Control

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| Owner: | Human Resources | Review: | Annually | Classification: | 1 (Proprietary) |
| Author: | Human Resources | Version: | V1.1 | Status: | PUBLISHED |
| Date Published: | 03/12/2019 | Code: | TBC |  |  |

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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 | 08.04.2022 | Amended by PTS Clinical Lead |
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