University of Northampton

Practice Educator – Physiotherapy

Job Description



Job Title: Practice Educator – Physiotherapy
Grade: 7
Responsible to: Clinic Lead Physiotherapist

Overall Purpose

To provide high-quality physiotherapy services within the University of Northampton Health and Rehabilitation Centre (HaRC) whilst delivering clinical education and supervision for physiotherapy students who are undertaking clinical placement. The postholder will work collaboratively with the Clinic Lead Physiotherapist to create a supportive learning environment that enables students to develop the essential skills, knowledge, and professional behaviours required for delivering safe, effective and evidence-based physiotherapy practice in accordance with HCPC & CSP standards.
The post holder will manage a varied caseload and contribute to specialist clinical services according to their experience, competencies and the needs of the service.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

- To use innovative approaches to clinical education, mentorship & supervision for physiotherapy students during clinical placements providing varied learning experiences including hands-on training, practical demonstrations, case discussion, critical reflection and feedback.
- To ensure students develop essential physiotherapy skills, including assessments, clinical reasoning and treatments, with the integration of evidence-based practice.
- Monitor and assess student clinical performance, clinical reasoning, professional behaviours and treatment interventions in line with course, HCPC and CSP requirements
- Provide constructive feedback and facilitate critical reflection to enhance learning and professional development.
- To serve as a role model for students by demonstrating excellence in physiotherapeutic care, ensuring high-quality treatment that supports teaching, learning, and assessment.
- To be part of a highly motivated clinical educational team, providing exceptional, patient-centred care at the University of Northampton HaRC.
- To assess, diagnose and provide treatment plans for patients.
- To maintain patient care within the community/HaRC but always referring for acute care in a timely way when/as appropriate.

Clinical Education Responsibilities

- Plan, coordinate and facilitate clinical placement experiences for physiotherapy students.
- Supervise students undertaking direct patient care, ensuring patient safety and appropriate levels of delegated responsibility.
- Complete formative and summative assessments in accordance with programme and university requirements.
- Maintain placement documentation and student records in line with programme requirements.
- Identify and support students experiencing difficulties in placement performance and escalate concerns appropriately.
- Liaise with academic staff and placement coordinators regarding student progress and achievement.
- Contribute to placement quality assurance, evaluation and continuous improvement activities.
- Support students to integrate evidence-based practice, reflective practice and professional reasoning into patient care.

Clinical Governance Responsibilities

- Ensure all clinical practice complies with HCPC, CSP, University and HaRC governance procedures.
- Participate in clinical audit, quality improvement and service development initiatives.
- Report clinical incidents, near misses and safeguarding concerns in accordance with organisational procedures.
- Maintain own continuing professional development and HCPC registration requirements.

Generic Duties and Responsibilities

- To work independently providing physiotherapy services to patients within the University of Northampton HaRC, with particular emphasis on patient centered care.
- To assess, develop and implement treatment plans including promotion of associated good health behaviours for all patients.
- To be accountable for own professional action and recognise own professional boundaries, seeking advice as appropriate.
- To maintain up to date and accurate case notes in line with professional standards (HCPC and CSP) and to provide appropriate intervention and evaluate outcomes as part of clinical record keeping.
- To monitor stock levels & equipment quality requesting new equipment as necessary (reporting any equipment needing repair to the operational team).

- Report repairs as appropriate
- To be responsible for the security, care and maintenance of all equipment, ensuring standards of infection control and safety are maintained.
- To supervise students on clinical placement.
- To collaborate with the multi-disciplinary team at the HaRC to support staff development through mentorship, training and service evaluation activities such as research and audit.
- To work within defined departmental and national protocols/policies and professional code of conduct
- The post holder will be expected to undertake other responsibilities and tasks as reasonably requested by the Clinic Lead Physiotherapist and HaRC Operations Manager.
- The post holder will be responsible and accountable for ensuring all employment legislative requirements are adhered to including equality and diversity and health and safety issues
- The job description may be altered at any time in the future in line with the level of the post to meet changing institutional requirements, but only in full consultation with the post holder.

Person Specification

Please ensure that your application statement provides clear and specific examples to illustrate how you meet each essential criterion. Applicants that fail to do so will not be shortlisted.

	Criteria	Essential / Desirable	Assessment Methods
Qualifications			
1	BSc(Hons) Physiotherapy / MSc Physiotherapy (pre-reg)	Essential	Application
2	Professional registration with the HCPC and a commitment to maintaining this through continuous professional development	Essential	Application
3	Registration with the HCPC & CSP	Essential	Application
4	A level 7 qualification in a related field (or working towards one) OR evidence of ongoing CPD in a related / specialist field	Desirable	Application
Skills, Knowledge and Experience			
5	To use a wide range of communication skills with patients, students and relevant stakeholders to facilitate, coordinate and evaluate patient care, student learning and stakeholder relationships.	Essential	Application Interview
6	Work closely with patients and carers, agreeing decision making relevant to patient management.	Essential	Application Interview
7	Possess and develop negotiation skills in the management of conflict across a range of situations, including dealing with initial complaints sensitively, avoiding escalation where possible.	Essential	Application Interview
8	Supervise the work of undergraduate students on clinical placement and complete assessment as required by HCPC,CSP and UoN placement requirements.	Essential	Interview
9	Keep up to date with new techniques and developments for the promotion and maintenance of good practice in specialist field.	Essential	Application Interview
10	Have experience in motivating clients and /or carers to engage in the therapeutic process	Essential	Application
11	Demonstrate knowledge of professional, clinical – national and local clinical guidelines	Essential	Application Interview

12	Participation in the development and delivery of training (formal and informal) and continuous professional development activities with MDT members of the HaRC in area of clinical expertise.	Desirable	Application Interview
13	Up to date knowledge of new techniques and developments for the promotion and maintenance of good practice in specialist field.	Essential	Application Interview
14	Manage and prioritise own caseload independently	Essential	Application Interview
15	Experience of undertaking comprehensive history, physical examination, treatments and exercise prescription that require a high degree of manual dexterity, hand/eye co-ordination and fine motor skills	Essential	Application Interview
16	Collect and provide research data	Desirable	Application
17	To use appropriate IT applications for patient record keeping, data management and evaluation.	Essential	Application Interview

Personal Qualities

18	Ability to adapt to organisational change	Essential	Application Interview
19	Ability to adapt to technological advances in the workplace	Essential	Application Interview
20	Integrity and professionalism, demonstrating a commitment to ethical standards, confidentiality, and the University's values of inclusivity, trust, sustainability and aspiration	Essential	Application Interview
21	Demonstrate empathy with clients, carers and families and colleagues, ensuring that effective communication is achieved, particularly where barriers to understanding exist.	Essential	Application Interview
22	Demonstrate the ability to reflect on practice with peers, mentors and training to identify own strengths and developmental needs	Essential	Application Interview