

Job Description

Job Title	Staff Nurse
Department	Radiotherapy
Reports to	Clinical Nurse Manager
Date	March 2013

Overall Purpose of Job

To provide professional nursing skills in assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating the nursing care for assigned patients and provide exceptional patient care in an environment where quality, respect, caring and compassion are at the centre of all we do.

You will be required to demonstrate high standards of clinical practice providing holistic care to patients receiving radiotherapy. You will assess, plan, implement, and evaluate care for radiotherapy patients with complex needs.

Key Responsibilities and Deliverables

- Provide direct care to assigned patients.
- Take the nursing history, summarise data and state nursing diagnoses/patient care needs.
- Observe and record signs, symptoms and behaviours, including the physiological status of patients; present the assessment of changes, the proposed revision of interventions, and desired outcomes.
- Follow policy for activating an individualised plan of care for newly referred patients.
- Ensure patient is educated in the treatment procedure and related side effects.
- Assess patients for radiation therapy side effects and provide appropriate nursing interventions.
- Provide emotional support to patients and families and make appropriate referrals to community and hospital support services, such as Medical Social Work, Home Care, ICS, etc as needed.
- Deliver designated nursing interventions to assigned patients that are consistent with the stated medical plan of care.
- Perform admission, discharge and transfer procedures, and assist others with patient's activities and care.
- Execute physician's orders for all assigned patients; safely and properly administer medications and treatments.
- Notify appropriate nursing, medical and allied health staff to changes in the patient's status.
- Independently perform duties and assume responsibility for care of assigned patients.
- Perform techniques and routines in the specialty service area.

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- Perform or assist others to perform proper aseptic techniques, isolation procedures, and infection control measures.
- Document nursing care in all assigned patient records.
- Maintain patient's privacy and confidentiality of information and records at all times.
- Evaluate care given including the patient response.
- Reassess and document the proposed revision of interventions and desired outcomes.
- Demonstrate ability to assess patient's understanding of and compliance with instructions and health care teaching.
- Review documentation of instructions, teaching topics, and patient response with the Radiotherapy Services Manager/Clinical Nurse Manager.
- Adhere to internal controls established for department.
- Attend MDT meetings as required.
- Conduct daily and weekly handover with hospital departments responsible for care of patients undergoing Radiotherapy treatment.
- Perform related duties as required.

Clinical Responsibilities

The post holder will be familiar with and adhere to The Professional Scope of Practice Framework (An Bord Altranais 2000).

The post holder will ensure:

- The patient's needs are individually assessed.
- A care plan and evaluation process is planned and implemented.
- The patient's families/significant others are involved as appropriate.
- Patients are cared for in the optimum clinical environment, adhering to all nursing and hospital wide policies and guidelines.
- Delegation is appropriate to the skill level and knowledge of the individual to whom the task is delegated.
- Documentation is recorded in a professional, legible and timely fashion.

The post holder will partake in the Total Quality Management processes thereby contributing to:

- The identification of quality/policy/guideline issues.
- The evaluation of current practices to best practice.
- The setting of standards utilising structure, process and outcome.
- All hospital, regional and national audit processes.
- The Hospital Wide Accreditation Cycle.
- Health Promotion initiatives.

Managerial Responsibilities

- The timely identification and communication of any issues to the Radiotherapy Services manager and/or Clinical Nurse Manager.
- Demonstrate a confidence/competence in all hospital policies and guidelines.
- Efficient recording of all necessary documentation.
- Effective management of complaints.
- Monitoring of all risk management processes.
- Maintaining effective interdisciplinary communication processes.
- Efficient utilisation of pay and non-pay resources.
- Participate in all departmental and hospital nursing communication.

Personal/Professional Responsibilities

The post holder is expected to

- Attend in a timely manner all mandatory education sessions.
- Maintain a professional portfolio.
- Ensure their professional and personal persona positively reflects the profession of nursing and UPMC Beacon Hospital.
- Identify potential and beneficial topics for nursing research.
- Utilise all practical opportunities to educate the patient and their families.
- Attend appropriate study days/courses.
- Be a preceptor and or supervisor to students/newly appointed staff.
- Participate in their performance review with their Clinical Nurse Manager.

Educational Responsibilities

Under the direction of the Clinical Nurse Managers the post holder will:

- Develop teaching skills and participate in the planning implementation of orientation and teaching programmes for student nurses in the clinical setting.
- Provide feedback to Clinical Nurse Managers in the compilation of proficiency assessments for student nurses in the clinical setting.
- Participate in the clinical induction of all new nursing and support staff.
- Develop leadership ability in order to act as an effective role model.
- Assume responsibility for own learning and development needs.

Other Duties and Responsibilities

- Utilise effective time management skills.
- Maintain professional appearance and dress code.
- Comply with guidelines for absence or tardiness.
- Attend staff meetings, read email and other postings.
- Attend all required in-services.
- All employees are expected to remain flexible to meet the needs of the Hospital, which may include floating to other departments to assist as the patient needs fluctuate.
- Wear Identification badge when working.

Person Specification

Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An Bord Altranais Registered General Nurse licence in good standing.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 year post nursing registration experience preferred. ▪ Previous Oncology experience preferred. ▪ Job Specific Competencies and Knowledge.
Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team. ▪ Demonstrate motivation and an innovative approach to job. ▪ Communication & Interpersonal Skills. ▪ Demonstrate effective communication skills including the ability to present information in a clear and concise manner. ▪ Demonstrate an understanding of change management.
Planning and Organising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate evidence of effective planning, organising and time management skills. ▪ Demonstrate flexible approach – to internal rotations, rostering, e.g. night duty, theatre on call, attitude to work.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate evidence of recent and relevant experience in the specialised area and in an acute hospital setting. ▪ Demonstrate knowledge of new developments in specialised area. ▪ Demonstrate knowledge of national strategies where appropriate to nursing care.
Customer Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrate a focus on quality. ▪ Demonstrate evidence of ability to empathise with and treat patients, relatives and colleagues with dignity and respect.
Personal Competencies	<p>All posts in UPMC Beacon Hospital require a high level of flexibility to ensure the delivery of an effective and efficient service therefore, the post holder will be required to demonstrate flexibility as and when required by their manager or hospital management.</p>

This job description is intended to be an outline of the areas of responsibility and deliverables at the time of its writing. As the Hospital and the post holder develop, this job description may be subject to review in light of the changing needs of the Hospital.

Job Description received by employee: _____
Signature **Date**