



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD1026

JOB TITLE:	Nurse Clinician, Cardiac Rehabilitation - Heart Function	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	80182/N.VI.21230.001
CLASSIFICATION:	Nurse Clinician - Cardiac	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	NL4
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Nurses Bargaining Association	HSCIS NO.:	21230
UNION:	BCNU	JOB/CLASS CODE:	SI: 80182 CI: 21230
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Heart Health, Cardiac Rehabilitation	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Program Manager or designate		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: SI (RJH); CI (NRGH); NI (CRH)		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority, patient safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone at VIHA; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

Reporting to the Program Manager or designate, participates in developing, implementing and evaluating programs/services in accordance with the Vision and Mission statements of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA). Utilizing knowledge and clinical expertise in cardiac rehabilitation/heart function and management of related chronic disease, functions as a clinical resource, providing consultation and in-service to nurses, physicians, other program teams, community nurses, and other health care team staff regarding the care and treatment of patients/clients/residents within cardiac rehabilitation/heart function specialty areas. Directs staff and assigns work as required. Responsible for patient assessment and teaching, in-group and individual settings, with a variety of health education needs. Travels to various sites as required. Provides direct patient/client care, teaching and problem solving.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Acts as a resource person to physicians and nursing staff, either in the hospital or in the community:
 - Utilizes knowledge and clinical expertise in specialty area, provides in-service for nursing staff and other health professionals and health care workers, in hospital, the community, and educational facilities regarding the care and treatment of patients/clients/residents and their families.
 - Participates in the development, recommendation and evaluation of education materials. Instructs other nursing staff/health care workers in patient care and the use of patient education materials.
 - Trains nursing and other staff in the care of patients and supports nursing staff to meet competency requirements.
 - Participates in specialized programs and outreach education through in-services.
 - Provides direct patient care as required.
 - Participates in the orientation process for new staff.
2. Provides Leadership for designated service or specialty area.
 - Consults and communicates with Interdisciplinary Team which includes, but is not limited to, Physicians, Allied health professionals, volunteers, community partners, and other resources.

- Provides leadership in urgent and emergent situations.
- Follows up and contributes to the resolution of risk management issues.
- Directs staff and students, and assigns work as appropriate.
- Provides input into individual performance planning as required; monitors and evaluates staff performance and provides constructive feedback as required.
- Provides ongoing coaching and mentoring to facilitate performance improvement and informal opportunities as required.

3. Quality Assurance/Improvement:

- Contributes to the development of tools, processes and criteria/indicators to continuously evaluate program effectiveness and to identify program development needs, in collaboration with the Program Manager and other team members.
- In consultation with team members, develops, reviews, revises and updates procedures for the service area, ensuring consistency with applicable standards, VIHA standards and procedures, BC College of Nurses and Midwives Standards of Practice, and best practices/current knowledge.
- Conducts equipment and supply evaluation and makes recommendations according to objective clinical assessment. Responsible for maintaining equipment and instruments in the cardiac rehabilitation and/or heart function clinical specialty.

4. Administration Support:

- Documents nursing observations and interventions; maintains complete and accurate health records.
- Collects and reports statistical data.
- Participates in program activities to promote improvements to patient care, problem solving and safe operation of the program.
- Assists with other administrative duties as assigned.

5. Clinical Assessment and Support to Patients/clients/residents/families:

- Triage patients according to need.
- Assesses the presence and extent of heart failure, cardiovascular or related diseases, risk factors, and other chronic conditions.
- Participates in multidisciplinary clinics for the purposes of ongoing clinical assessment, patient/family education, support, and behaviour change.
- Utilizes wellness promotion and self-management philosophy/principles to support optimal health, informed decision-making, and facilitates change.
- Reviews lab work and medications with the patient and other health professionals.
- Provides ongoing consultation and coordination of support to patients/clients /families with other agencies, health professionals and health workers regarding issues related to the patient's disease.

6. Patient Education and Training:

- Establishes therapeutic relationships with patients/clients/residents and families.
- Assesses patient/family learning needs, readiness and ability to learn.
- Provides information, explains, teaches and involves patient/family in the treatment process.
- Advocates for and facilitates informed choices
- Coaches and counsels patients/clients and families to develop and maintain health-promoting behavior within the context of the illness or disease.

- Demonstrates self/home care skills.
 - In collaboration with other team members develops, coordinates and conducts orientation/educational/training sessions for purposes of patient/client/family education and self-management.
 - Provides exercise guidance and/or prescription when appropriate and establishes and monitors exercise program based on initial and ongoing assessment. Monitors patient progress and response to exercise and updates plan as necessary.
7. Utilizes computerized system to update and maintain data, to assist in care planning and evaluation.
 8. Participates in the preparation of the budget by providing input to manager. Authorizes minor operational expenditures in consultation with Program Manager.
 9. Participates in research projects. Presents results of practice-based research at interdisciplinary conferences and to other educators.
 10. Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Registration with BC College of Nurses and Midwives as a practicing RN registrant. Graduation from a recognized nursing program or related health field or evidence of an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Four (4) years recent related experience in heart failure and/or cardiovascular disease, including education, behavioral counseling, chronic disease management, ECG monitoring and interpretation, and interpretation of exercise stress testing. Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification. American College Sports Medicine exercise specialist certification preferred.

Skills And Abilities

- Demonstrated knowledge of the current theories, technologies and practices in the specialty area.
- Comprehensive knowledge of heart failure, cardiovascular disease process, common complications, cardiac rehabilitation, change theory, motivational theory, and behavioral counseling, and understanding of relationship between cardiovascular disease and other co-morbid conditions.
- Knowledge in the current theories, technologies and practices in cardiac disease prevention, risk factor modification, rehabilitation, heart failure, and self management.
- Knowledge in arrhythmia interpretation as evidenced by: a) successful completion of approved basic arrhythmia course within the past year; or b) a mark of 75% on the approved ECG Challenge Exam.
- Knowledge of cardiac and self-management related resources throughout the health authority.
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work as a member of an interdisciplinary team.
- Ability to work independently and with varied workload.
- Ability to organize workload and set priorities.
- Ability to plan, organize and evaluate patient care.
- Ability to assess learning needs of people throughout the life cycle.
- Ability to teach and apply the principles of adult learning in individual and group settings.
- Ability to facilitate change.
- Ability to deal effectively with a variety of internal and external contacts including co-workers, physicians, community agencies, representatives, patients/clients/residents and families.
- Ability to access transportation to meet operational requirements.

- Physical ability to carry out the duties of the position.
- Ability to use computer programs and databases, such as Powerchart, Access