



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD1791

JOB TITLE:	Community Occupational Therapist	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	P.NI.38200.002
CLASSIFICATION:	Occupational Therapist P1	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	H-J-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	HSCIS NO.:	38901
UNION:	BCGEU	JOB/CLASS CODE:	38901
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Home & Community Care; Rural Health Services	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Manager		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: NI		

JOB SUMMARY:

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

Working without general supervision under the administrative direction of the Manager and as part of the multi-disciplinary health care team delivering care in the community setting, the Community Occupational Therapist provides occupational therapy services to referred clients; consultation for caregivers; and educates clients, caregivers, staff and the community on rehabilitation interventions.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Client Specific Services

1. Provides professional Occupational Therapy services to referred clients to improve health and quality of life in a variety of settings and locations in the community by assessing individual clients and their environment with respect to physical or functional status and rehabilitation potential and, in particular, assessing clients' cognitive, perceptual, self-care, physical and leisure status.
2. Develops, implements and monitors client specific rehabilitation plans which may include:
 - Modifying environmental barriers in the home (ramps, technical aids; bathroom, kitchen, and bedroom adaptations), and the workplace (specialized wheelchairs, adapted furniture, equipment, building accessibility);
 - Adapting equipment to assist in daily living skills (eating, dressing, and hygiene aids), provision of splints, and orthopedic devices;
 - Teaching or adapting activities for homemaking, self-care, work and leisure;
 - Mobility retraining - such as electric and manual wheelchair training, transferring skills;
 - Advocating on behalf of clients with other agencies (e.g. DVA, Social Services and Housing);
 - Referring to community agencies, groups, support systems, and outpatient therapy services when appropriate;
 - Co-ordinating services with client, family, and other agencies and caregivers;
 - Initiating care conferences where indicated; and
 - Maintaining client records to ensure legal and data requirements are met.

General Consultation and Education

3. Acts as a resource person for the multi-disciplinary health care team by:
 - Advising on occupational therapy techniques;
 - Advising on the use of adaptive equipment for mobility and activities of daily living; and
 - Providing in-services to staff.
4. Provides information and/or educational sessions on various aspects of rehabilitation, equipment, Activities of Daily Living (ADL's) and resources to staff, Home Support Services, long-term care facilities, Community agencies, and the general public (specific topics may include transfers, lifting, and adaptive equipment);
5. Provides information and education in the community to develop knowledge of interventions and resources that assist people with disabilities modify environmental barriers and promote safety in the home and workplace (community organizations may include, for example: Stroke Club, Red Cross, Adult Day Care, Municipal Councils, Service Clubs, Industry).

Liaison and Coordination

6. Maintains contact with related groups, agencies, and professionals (including therapists) in the community.
7. Liaises with local and referring hospitals.
8. Functions a member of a multi-disciplinary health care team.
9. Assists in the development of literature/handouts describing Community Rehabilitation services.

Resource Planning and Development

10. Participates in the planning for development of required services in the community by:
 - Identifying needs of the defined target population;
 - Maintaining an inventory of existing services; keeping current on new and existing agencies, programs and equipment relevant to the program through phone calls, visits and reading;
 - Sharing the above information with staff and other members of the multi-disciplinary health care team; and
 - Identifying unmet needs and recommending strategies for addressing these needs.

Quality Assurance and Evaluation

11. Assists with a community rehabilitation quality assurance program by:
 - Participating in the development of quality assurance standards and measures; and
 - Maintaining the data and records required for quality assurance reviews.
12. Participates in the evaluation of community rehabilitation services by:
 - Collecting required data;
 - Obtaining consumer assessment of services; and
 - Defining goals for interventions, and assessing and documenting the outcomes of interventions.

Other related duties

13. Maintains required data and report statistics to the accepted standards to ensure program requirements are met.
14. Participates on committees, projects, and delegated tasks to assist in the development, management, and evaluation of community rehabilitation programs.

15. Completes assessments and other documentation as required.

16. Performs other related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Graduation from a recognized university program in Occupational Therapy. Current licensure in a practicing category with the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC as an Occupational Therapist. Eligible for membership in the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists (CAOT). Minimum two (2) years' post graduate experience in Occupational Therapy or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Community experience preferred. Valid BC Driver's License.

Skills And Abilities

- Prioritize, organize and problem-solve
- Observe and assess clients
- Demonstrate sound judgement, tact and empathy
- Communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing
- Deal with others effectively
- Participate as a member of a multidisciplinary team
- Foster good public relations
- Physically and emotionally able to perform the duties of the position
- Operate related equipment, including computerized systems
- Type
- Use personal vehicle