



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD3585

JOB TITLE:	Occupational Therapist - Early Psychosis Intervention (EPI)	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	60524
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:	Mental Health and Substance Use	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Coordinator		
FACILITY/SITE:	SI: Victoria Mental Centre		

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.

Practices in accordance with the standards of professional practice and code of ethics as outlined by the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC as well as within a client and family centred care model and Island Health vision and values. Employs principles of a strengths-based, recovery philosophy to provide occupational therapy services to assist clients with their psychosocial rehabilitation and maintain optimal health outcomes. Assesses and screens clients for psychosis and other conditions which may include outreach visits; makes decisions on the disposition of referrals including those requiring additional assessment, psychiatric consultant, linkage to a treatment provider and/or referral to an alternative service. Liaises with family physicians, and community agencies to promote early identification and treatment of psychosis. Provides psycho-education, consultation, supportive counselling and family education; provides information to clients and families regarding access to community resources in order to facilitate an effective continuum of services and participates in ongoing development of group therapy component of the program by facilitating adolescent, adult and family groups.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Collects information needed to assess and screen clients for psychosis and other conditions which may include outreach visits; makes decision on the disposition of referrals including those requiring additional assessment, psychiatric consultant, linkage to a treatment provider and/or referral to an alternative service. Liaises with family physicians, and community agencies to promote early identification and treatment of psychosis.
2. Provides comprehensive mental health assessments, outreach, and referrals for treatment by methods such as conducting mental status exams and assessing for psychosis in less intrusive settings, such as the home when necessary, facilitating psychiatric assessments, as needed.
3. Assesses clients' functional abilities/disabilities, goals, interests, needs, safety and environmental supports and resources, and contributes to the diagnostic formulation, by using recognized and formal/informal occupational therapy, psychosocial rehabilitation, and/or physical assessments. Develops a plan to meet the identified client needs, in partnership with client, caregivers/family and other health care providers.
4. Provides psycho-education, consultation, supportive counselling and family education; provides information to clients and families regarding access to community resources in order to facilitate an effective continuum of services and participates in ongoing development of group therapy component of the program by facilitating adolescent, adult and family groups.

5. Provides outreach and monitoring of those clients identified as being at risk for psychosis, (at risk mental state), by methods such as providing psycho-education, assessing mental state, and maintaining contact with these clients and their families in community settings or through the telephone as needed. Assists youth/young adults with re-integrating back to school and work, leisure and personal life by providing appropriate transition.
6. Evaluates occupational therapy services, including quality and outcomes, in collaboration with the client and family in keeping with the client's goals by determining the purpose, method and criteria of the evaluation, implementing the evaluation, and analyzing and interpreting results to utilize results for service delivery and future planning of occupational therapy services.
7. Builds public awareness of the Early Psychosis Intervention (EPI) program, by informing staff, community groups, schools and agencies of the role and function of the EPI program by providing information formally and informally during in-services.
8. Maintains a variety of records including client files by gathering information, entering data into computerized databases and/or documenting information into approved formats according to the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC practice standards. Notes client's progress, changes to treatment plan, and records test/treatment results to provide evidence and rationale that support assessment findings and intervention plan. Compiles statistics on workload activities and summarizing information into written reports as requested.
9. Participates in team/program activities required to enhance and optimize the delivery of care and to facilitate evidence-based practice. Promotes quality management principles for team/program operations, identifies processes/procedures that require improvement, and drafts/revises guidelines, policies and procedures for review.
10. Applies an evidence-based approach to clinical problem solving through methods such as reviewing relevant literature/resources and applying approved research findings in clinical practice to support the research culture of the organization. Evaluates results in collaboration with interdisciplinary team.
11. Maintains and updates own clinical knowledge within area of practice, and develops a plan in collaboration with designated personnel/team for professional development. Reviews progress to ensure that goals are achieved within established time frames.
12. 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). One (1) year experience in a psychiatric setting working with adolescents and young adults, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience.

Skills And Abilities

- Knowledge of developmental issues and theories related to mental illness, in particular psychosis, for client population.
- Broad knowledge of Occupational Therapy theory and practice.
- Broad knowledge of the COTBC standards of practice and guidelines for clinical practitioners.
- Broad knowledge of other health care disciplines and their role in client care.
- Basic knowledge of evidence-based clinical practice related to designated clinical area(s)
- Basic knowledge of occupational therapy standardised tests and measures.
- Basic knowledge of research process and methodology.
- Demonstrated ability to teach and empower clients to assume control over their health.
- Demonstrated ability to adjust to unexpected events, problem-solve, set priorities and deal with conflict.

- Demonstrated ability to work independently and collaboratively as a member of an interdisciplinary team.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate (orally and in writing) and deal effectively with clients and their families, coworkers, physicians, other health care staff, and staff of external agencies.
- Demonstrated ability to establish workload priorities in collaboration with others in a complex health care environment.
- Demonstrated ability to recognize when referral to another health care professional is required.
- Demonstrated computer skills including the ability to effectively use a computerized client care information system.
- Demonstrated physical ability to perform the duties of the position.