UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD3616

JOB TITLE:	Physiotherapist, Seniors Health	**JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:**	60528/P.VI.37200.003
CLASSIFICATION:	Physiotherapist P1	**GRID/PAY LEVEL:**	H-J-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	**HSCIS NO.:**	37901
UNION:	HSA; PEA	**JOB/CLASS CODE:**	37901
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Seniors Health	**BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):**	
REPORTING TO:	Manager or designate		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: RJH, Peninsula Health Unit, Nanaimo Regional General Hospital (Bowen Centre); CI Central Island Health Services Delivery Area (Nanaimo Health Unit)		

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.

Reporting to the Manager or designate and as a part of the interdisciplinary Seniors Health program, the Seniors Health physiotherapist supports prevention, provides assessment, and treatment of injury, pain, disease and/or disorders that impacts the clients' movement, function and health status, for the target population (clients generally over 75 with cognitive impairment and and/or other indicators of frailty). Within the Seniors & Spiritual Health secondary level consultation service model, the physiotherapist contributes to the program's interdisciplinary comprehensive geriatric screen and focused assessment through evidence-informed practice by:

- Demonstrating knowledge in function and mobility and provides team leadership in the promotion, improvement, and maintenance of the mobility, health, and well-being of seniors.
- Collecting and reviewing information related to the client's prior functional abilities, physical performance, and participation.
- Assessment: may include examination of joint integrity and mobility, gait and balance, muscle performance, motor function, cardiorespiratory function, pain, neuromotor and sensorimotor development, posture, cardiovascular and work capacity, cognition and mental status, skin condition, accessibility and environmental review.
- Identifying the personal and environmental factors affecting client's functional abilities, physical performance, and participation.
- Delivering physiotherapy services in a safe physical environment for self, other team members, and staff.
- Performing physiotherapy interventions in accordance with client consent and in a safe and effective manner.
- Physiotherapy Interventions: may include education and consultation, therapeutic exercise, soft tissue and manual therapy techniques including manipulation, electro-physical agents and mechanical modalities, functional activity training, cardio-respiratory and neuromotor techniques, and prescribing aids and devices.
- Determining the client's need for supervision and implements appropriate monitoring during specific physiotherapy interventions.

- Providing information/education to the client about health promotion, self-management, and relevant services with respect to his/her unique condition.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Provides physiotherapy treatments to individual clients and client groups to improve and/or maintain functional independence.

2. Engages the client and primary caregiver in the development of recommendations for intervention. Coordinates, evaluates and develops a treatment plan to meet the identified needs in collaboration with client and primary caregiver.

3. Documents information including relevant clinical data, assessment information, treatment plans, progress reports and care plans in accordance with established standards and procedures. Communicates to client and primary caregiver and updates integrated care plan as required.

4. Assigns duties to and oversees designated treatment activities of the Rehabilitation Assistants.

5. Participates as a member of the interdisciplinary team and as a resource for the frail elderly with complex medical problems and cognitive impairment. Provides functional interpretation of assessment findings. Identifies risks and resources to maximize client/primary caregiver function in the home environment

6. Provides physiotherapy/clinical services to clients through education, group participation and management, and skill development.

7. Provides consultation and support to caregivers of clients referred to the program.

8. Establishes and maintains collaboration with community agencies to improve the care through methods such as interpreting the scope and purpose of physiotherapy for the clients, providing consultation to service providers in order to facilitate the clients entry, increasing the capacity of service providers to sustain the client in their environment, and effective participation in community life or to enhance the current living situation.

9. Plans, develops, evaluates and provides education/information materials for communication to members of the team, community agencies/facilities, family and the client.

10. Educates the client about health promotion, self-management, and relevant services with respect to his/her unique condition.

11. Contributes to the practicum experience of students by performing duties such as providing supervision, clinical education and guidance to students and providing feedback on performance as required.

12. Maintains and updates knowledge in Physiotherapy through methods such as reviewing literature, communication with other professionals and attendance at relevant education programs as required and approved by the employer in order to contribute to the continuing improvement of care.

13. Participates in continuous quality improvement/quality assurance/client safety initiatives/activities through methods such as evaluation and measurement of outcomes of programs/care, follow-up of unusual occurrences, identification and participation in research studies and contribution to the identification of new policies and best practices for the profession and the organization.

14. Establishes and prioritizes, with the client, expected outcomes based on the assessment findings and evidence-informed practice

15. Evaluates effectiveness of the intervention strategy on an ongoing basis using appropriate outcome measures.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Graduation from a recognized university program in Physiotherapy. Current licensure in a practicing category with the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC as a Physiotherapist. Eligible for membership in the Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA). Knowledge of current standards for Physiotherapists in the province of British Columbia. Knowledge of and experience in the processes related to continuous quality improvement. Three (3) years' of recent clinically related experience including a combination of experience related to working with the frail elderly

population or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Valid BC Driver's License.

Skills And Abilities

- Work effectively as part of an interdisciplinary team, with other agencies and staff, and with clients and caregivers/families.
- Demonstrate strong leadership abilities.
- Ability to function independently prioritize, organize, plan and problem solve.
- Ability to use a collaborative approach to problem solving with community partners and within the interdisciplinary team.
- Demonstrated contribution to the professional and the organizational vision as it pertains to geriatric clinical practice and patient/client care.
- Demonstrated critical and analytical thinking, decision making, and problem solving skills.
- A working knowledge of current and future health care issues and the potential impacts on physical therapy clinical practice.
- Effective oral and written communication skills.
- Knowledge of Adult Learning Principals in developing and delivering formal education.
- Travel is a requirement of this position; transportation arrangements must meet operational requirements.
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position.