UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD4599

JOB TITLE:	Occupational Therapist GEM Team	**JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:**	4599
CLASSIFICATION:	Occupational Therapist P1	**GRID/PAY LEVEL:**	H-J-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	**HSCIS NO.:**	38901
UNION:	HSA	**JOB/CLASS CODE:**	38901
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Seniors Health	**BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):**	
REPORTING TO:	Manager or delegate		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: SI (RJH, VGH)		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of Island Health (Vancouver Island Health Authority), 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 Team the Occupational Therapist provides elder friendly occupational therapy services based on the clinical theory and practice of the Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment for the target population (clients over 70 with cognitive impairment and and/or other indicators of frailty).

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. As a member of and in consultation with an interdisciplinary Outreach Team, the Occupational Therapist provides occupational therapy services to clients and their caregivers by utilizing recognized occupational therapy, physical, psychosocial, cognitive and client-centered neuropsychologically based assessments to identify:

- Client's overall functional resources, performance capacity and environmental supports by performing enhanced comprehensive geriatric assessment and making recommendations to the client's direct care team members including other therapists, nurses and physicians;
- Components of cognitive function which appear to be compromising the clients ability to perform daily occupations (Activities of Daily Living (ADL's) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL's);
- Intact components of cognitive function, which can be maximized.

2. Consults with the client and primary caregiver in the development of recommendations for intervention. Coordinates, evaluates and develops a treatment plan to meet the identified needs. Provides follow-up and changes treatment plan and provides occupational therapy treatments to individual clients and client groups to improve and/or maintain functional independence.

3. Documents information including relevant clinical data, assessment information, treatment plans, progress reports and care plans in accordance with established standards and procedures.

4. 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 and to enhance the knowledge of psychiatric rehabilitation and the management of specific behaviours and aspects of the clients' illnesses.

5. Maintains liaison with referring physician(s) and other medical professionals regarding patients' treatment; coordinates treatment programs with other departments and services.

6. Records and/or reports patients' treatment progress to appropriate medical professionals and outside agencies as required.

7. Attends and participates in appropriate multidisciplinary conferences, discharge planning conferences, medical rounds and service and department meetings.

8. Assists in developing and evaluating treatment programs for the service as assigned.

9. Identifies skill deficits and training requirements of staff, primary caregivers, agencies and facilities by assessing learning needs and making recommendations to the Manager regarding learning opportunities. Plans, develops, evaluates and provides education/information materials for communication to members of the team. Facilitates client, family, staff and community agencies access to current research and literature.

10. 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.

11. Maintains and updates knowledge in Occupational Therapy 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.

12. Participates in continuous quality improvement/quality assurance 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.

13. Provides supervision and oversight to Rehabilitation Assistants; assigns duties to and oversees designated treatment activities of the Rehabilitation Assistants.

14. Performs other related duties as assigned.

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). Knowledge of current standards for Occupational Therapists.

Three years of recent clinically related experience including working with the frail elderly population in areas such as Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment, psychosocial and neuropsychological based assessments, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Clinical knowledge of MHSU issues and impact on Seniors' function. Knowledge of and experience in the processes related to continuous quality improvement.

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 occupation therapy clinical practice.

- Effective oral and written communication skills.
- Knowledge of Adult Learning Principals in developing and delivering formal education.
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position.