UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD4688

JOB TITLE:	Vascular Nurse Specialist	**JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:**	4688
CLASSIFICATION:	Direct Patient Care - Profile Classification - Level 4	**GRID/PAY LEVEL:**	NL4
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Nurses Bargaining Association	**HSCIS NO.:**	21002
UNION:	BCNU	**JOB/CLASS CODE:**	80292
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	VGH Clinical Operations; RJH Clinical Operations	**BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):**	
REPORTING TO:	Manager or designate		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA-Royal Jubilee Hospital; Victoria General Hospital		

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, the Vascular Access Specialist participates in developing, implementing and evaluating Vascular Access services. Promotes development and monitoring of quality care standards such as the tracking of procedures, and complication rates, and facilitation of nursing staff development.

Utilizing knowledge and clinical expertise in vascular access, 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. Responsible for assessment and teaching, in-group and individual settings, of staff, patients and families with a variety of health education needs. Travels to other sites throughout Island Health as required. Provides direct patient care, teaching and problem solving.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Acts as a vascular access resource to physicians, nursing staff, and the extended care team, in the hospital and in the community.

2. Utilizes knowledge and clinical expertise in vascular access, 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:

- Develops, recommends and evaluates education materials. Instructs other nursing staff/health care workers in patient care and the use of patient education materials.
- Trains nursing staff in the care of patients and supports them to meet competency requirements.
- Participates in specialized programs and outreach education through in-services.
- Provides direct patient care as required include accessing central lines, SVADS, PICCS in medical imaging and outpatient laboratories within RJH/VGH and supporting home IV therapy with troubleshooting line (occlusion) or equipment management, and making recommendations for vascular access.
- Participates in the orientation process for new staff
- Provides ongoing coaching and mentoring to facilitate performance improvement and informal opportunities.

3. Provides individualized nursing care to patients (adult and pediatric) requiring specialized vascular access via PICC (Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter), midline catheter or IVAD (Implanted Vascular Access Device) or an IV (intravenous) by exception,performing functions such as: initiating PICC access, care planning; assessing patient health status; identifying patient/family priorities and goals; planning, implementing and evaluating methods of care/nursing interventions; recognizing and responding to anticipated and unanticipated client responses to care and treatment including urgent situations.

4. Quality Assurance/Improvement:

- Develops 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.
- Plans and implements and evaluates program development initiatives.
- 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.

5. 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.

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

- Utilizes wellness promotion and self-management philosophy/principles to support optimal health and informed decision making.
- Reviews lab work and medications with the patient and other health professionals as required.
- Provides ongoing consultation and coordination support to patients/clients/residents/families with other agencies, health professionals and health workers regarding issues related to the patient's disease.

7. 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.
- Demonstrates self/home care skills.

8. In collaboration with other team members develops, coordinates and conducts orientation/educational/training sessions for purposes of patient/family education.

9. Fulfills the responsibilities of and performs specialized nursing skills as an experienced self-directed nurse in accordance with hospital policies, procedures and standards, including following through on physician's orders.

10. Utilizes computerized systems to update and maintain data, to assist in care planning and evaluation.

11. Participates in the preparation of the budget by providing input to Program Manager.

12. Participates in research projects. Presents results of practice-based research at interdisciplinary conferences and to other educators and staff as required.

13. 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, completion of post-graduate specialty program, such as a Certified Registered Nurse of Infusion (CRNI) or Canadian Vascular Access Association (CVAA), or evidence of an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Current basic Cardiac Life Support certification. Comprehensive knowledge of Nursing Theory and evidence based best practice for vascular access. Three (3) years recent, related experience, including completion of a PICC insertion course, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience with PICC insertion, advanced peripheral vascular access and SVADs.

Valid B.C. driver's license. Local area travel requires the use of a personal vehicle for which mileage reimbursement will be paid and/or access to Island Health fleet vehicles will be provided.

Skills And Abilities

- Demonstrated knowledge of adult education principles.
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work as a member of an interdisciplinary team.
- Ability to organize workload and set priorities.
- Ability to work independently.
- Ability to plan, organize and evaluate patient care.
- Ability to identify and assess learning needs and develop educational programs.
- Ability to teach using adult education principles.
- Ability to apply the principles of adult learning in individual and group settings.
- 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 operate related equipment, including computers.
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position.