



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD910

JOB TITLE:	Occupational Therapist	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	60119
CLASSIFICATION:	Occupational Therapist P1	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	H-J-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	HSCIS NO.:	38901
UNION:	CUPE	JOB/CLASS CODE:	38901
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Continuing Health Services; Home & Community Care	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Manager or designate		
FACILITY/SITE:	Various VIHA SI Sites		

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 working as part of a interdisciplinary team, plans, organizes, implements and evaluates rehabilitation care for clients with chronic, acute, palliative or rehabilitative health care needs in the community setting. Duties and responsibilities include assessing, treating and educating clients and consulting and liaising with other health care professionals. The Occupational Therapist follows a model of client-centered care to maintain a continuum of occupational therapy services to promote and maintain optimal functional independence in a safe home environment. The Occupational Therapist applies the regulations and standards of practice and code of ethics as outlined in VIHA policies and procedures and the College of Health and Care Professionals of BC.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Provides occupational therapy services to clients in their places of residence, recreation and vocation including Health Services for Community Living (HSCL) and clients living in Ministry of Children/Family Development (MCFD) and Community Living Services (CLS) licensed and unlicensed homes through methods such as assessing, initially and subsequently, the client's physical, cognitive and psychosocial function, occupational performance, physical environment and cultural milieu and planning and implementing a rehabilitative care plan.
2. Provides to clients, a variety of clinical interventions such as therapeutic exercise regimes, recommendations on environmental modifications, basic seating assessments, recommendations on seating and positioning, dysphasia screening and advising on management techniques, cardio respiratory and socio-emotional support for client/family and caregiver, activities of daily living and recommendations for durable medical equipment, assisted daily living devices, lifts and transfer techniques, hot/cold applications and basic mobility training.
3. Provides specific occupational therapy clinical interventions in areas such as complex seating, complex environmental aids and technical aids, splinting, cognitive retraining, communication devices, complex power mobility prescriptions and perceptual retraining.
4. Provides evaluation and ongoing monitoring of the client's status, therapeutic regime and environment, making revisions to the client's rehabilitation care plan and discharge planning.
5. Refers clients to community resources, other health professionals and service agencies when indicated.

6. Advocates on behalf of clients and the health care system through methods such as providing short-term assistance to clients to obtain services, resources and fair processes or lobbying for the development of services and programs to address urgent client needs.
7. Participates as a member of the interdisciplinary team and as a resource for people with chronic, acute, palliative or rehabilitative health care needs in the identification and development of resource material to enhance the knowledge of these individuals. Responsibilities include identifying skill deficits and training requirements of staff and making recommendations to the Manager or designate regarding training opportunities. Develops, evaluates and revises information materials for communication to members of the team.
8. Transfers to Community Health Workers, specific delegated rehabilitation tasks.
9. Documents information including relevant clinical data, assessment information, treatment plans, progress reports and care plans manually and/or in a computerized environment. Prepares client related documentation and correspondence such as funding letters.
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.
11. Assists with orientation of new staff, other health professionals and support staff through methods such as demonstrating own work procedures.
12. Maintains and updates knowledge in Occupational Therapy through methods such as reviewing literature, communication with other professionals and attendance at relevant education programs as requested and approved in order to contribute to the continuing improvement of care.
13. 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.
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). Two (2) years of recent related experience including experience working in a community based therapy program or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Valid BC Driver's Licence.

Skills And Abilities

- Ability to provide a client-centered holistic approach to care.
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work independently, organize workload and establish priorities.
- Ability to work effectively as part of an inter-disciplinary team.
- Knowledge of community dynamics, agencies and resources.
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position.
- Ability to operate related equipment.
- Ability to work independently and show initiative and creativity in clinical practice.
- Ability to deal effectively with a wide range of community and facility contacts.
- Ability to demonstrate sound professional judgment, empathy, tact and integrity.

- Excellent assessment, care planning and coordination skills.