



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD944

JOB TITLE:	Occupational Therapist, Seniors Outreach	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	60398 / P.VI.38200.003
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:	Seniors & Spiritual Health	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Manager or delegate		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: NI(Comox Valley, Campbell River); SI(Victoria); CI (Cowichan, Nanaimo, Oceanside, Port Alberni).		

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 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). Within the Seniors and Spiritual Health secondary level consultation service model, responsibilities include the following:

Contributes to the program's interdisciplinary Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment.

Completes a functional cognitive assessment as part of the Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment.

Develops recommendations to address functional issues identified by the occupational therapy assessment and communicates these recommendations to the client, family/caregiver and referring clinician and/or agency.

Collaborates with the agencies involved in providing care for the client.

Develops and provides education to clients, family and agencies regarding client's specific needs.

Documents assessment findings and treatment recommendations and maintains client records to ensure legal and data requirements are met

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. Provides occupational therapy/clinical services to clients through methods such as functioning as a group leader and/or co-leader in the provision of groups to meet the psycho educational, skill development and other needs of elderly clients and their caregivers and providing case management for clients referred to the program.
 6. Establishes and maintains collaboration with community agencies such as referral agencies and care facilities to improve the care through methods such as interpreting the scope and purpose of occupational therapy for the clients, providing consultation to service providers in order to facilitate the clients entry and effective participation in community life or to enhance the current living situation.
 7. 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.
 8. 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.
 9. 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.
 10. 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.
 11. 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 (3) years of recent clinically related experience including working with the frail elderly population in areas such as Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment, psychosocial and neuropsychologically based assessments, or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Knowledge of and experience in the processes related to continuous quality improvement. 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 occupation 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.