



UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD990

JOB TITLE:	USTAT Nurse (RN/RPN)	JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:	80042
CLASSIFICATION:	Mental Health Nurse - Other Programs/Services	GRID/PAY LEVEL:	NL3
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Nurses Bargaining Association	HSCIS NO.:	25106
UNION:	BCNU; HSA	JOB/CLASS CODE:	80042
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Continuing Health Services/ Mental Health and Addictions Services - Urgent Short Term Assessment and Treatment Services	BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):	
REPORTING TO:	Coordinator		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA - SI Health Services		

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 Coordinator, Urgent Short Term Assessment and Treatment Services (USTAT) & Group Psychotherapy Program within the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and working as part of a interdisciplinary team, the USTAT Nurse provides urgent individual and group clinical response and psychotherapeutic services to adults with mental health and addiction issues. The USTAT Nurse participates in planning and assessment of community resources and client needs, liaising with relevant community services, linking the USTAT & Group Psychotherapy program with other service agencies and providing information on USTAT & Group Psychotherapy services to other service providers and maintaining clinical records.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Provides individual and group clinical therapy/counselling services to adults by performing duties such as assessing clients, providing treatment modalities such as short term crisis intervention and suicide prevention and providing short term psychotherapy services. Consults clients, caregivers & program staff on clinical issues such as medication management and required nursing care, relating to physical health and mental health addiction issues.
2. Collaborates in service delivery with other mental health and addiction teams, related community services and physicians.
3. Documents information including relevant clinical data, assessment information, treatment plans, progress reports, and care plans manually and/or in a computerized environment.
4. Participates in the short and long-term planning for Mental Health & Addictions Treatment Services as a member of the interdisciplinary team through methods such as evaluating the effectiveness of treatment within the service, identifying opportunities for change and formulating recommendations to ensure optimal outcomes are met.
5. Provides information on USTAT and Group Psychotherapy services through methods such as assessing education needs of various segments of the community and providing in-services by sharing information, demonstrating and providing guidance on interventions.
6. Contributes to the practicum experience of students through mentoring, collegial sharing of clinical information and providing guidance to students and providing feedback on performance.

7. Maintains and updates knowledge in mental health and addictions 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.
8. 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.
9. Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Registration with BC College of Nurses and Midwives as a practicing RN registrant or a practicing RPN registrant. Minimum of two (2) years of recent related experience working with adult acute clientele in a mental health and addictions facility or related field or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience. Experience with crisis intervention, urgent response, short-term treatment and group psychotherapy work. Knowledge of psychiatric disorders, Legislative Acts, and Mental Health & Addictions policy or equivalent combination of education, training, and experience

Skills And Abilities

- Working knowledge of chemical dependency, including the pathophysiology of substance abuse and withdrawal.
- Ability to work with seriously addicted and mentally ill clients and their families.
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to plan and organize workload and establish priorities.
- Ability to work independently and show initiative and creativity in clinical practice.
- Ability to exercise sound judgment, decision-making and problem solving.
- Ability to work effectively as part of an interdisciplinary team.
- Ability to establish relationships with internal and external contacts.
- Knowledge of community dynamics, agencies and resources.
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position.
- Ability to operate related equipment.
- Knowledge of non-violent crisis intervention.
- Knowledge of and ability to implement problem-solving processes.
- Ability to deal effectively with a wide range of community and facility contacts.
- Ability to provide a client-centered holistic approach to care.
- Ability to demonstrate sound professional judgment, empathy, tact and integrity.
- Proven assessment, care, planning and coordination skills.
- Ability to respect client's rights, values and preferences including multi-cultural issues.