

Job Description

Job Title	: Viral Hepatitis Clinical Nurse Specialist
Department	: Viral Hepatitis
Division	: Networked Care
Band / Grade	: B6 / B7 - funded for 18 months
Responsible to	: Lead Consultant/ Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist Viral Hepatitis
Accountable to	: Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist Viral Hepatitis
Number of direct reports	: N/A
Budgetary Responsibility	: N/A
Location	: Based at University Hospital Lewisham

King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust is one of the UK's largest and busiest teaching Trusts with a turnover of c£1 billion, 1.5 million patient contacts a year and around 14,000 staff based across 5 main sites in South East London. The Trust provides a full range of local hospital services across its different sites, and specialist services from King's College Hospital (KCH) sites at Denmark Hill in Camberwell and at the Princess Royal University Hospital (PRUH) site in Bromley.

King's is committed to delivering Sustainable Healthcare for All via our Green Plan. In line with national Greener NHS ambitions, we have set net zero carbon targets of 2040 for our NHS Carbon Footprint and 2045 for our NHS Carbon Footprint Plus. Everyone's contribution is required in order to meet the goals set out in our Green Plan and we encourage all staff to work responsibly, minimising their contributions to the Trust's carbon emissions, waste and pollution wherever possible.

The trust-wide strategy Strong Roots, Global Reach is our Vision to be BOLD, Brilliant people, Outstanding care, Leaders in Research, Innovation and Education, Diversity, Equality and Inclusion at the heart of everything we do. By being person-centred, digitally-enabled, and focused on sustainability, we can take Team King's to another level

Job Summary

This role is a joint role with Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust. The role will be based at University Hospital Lewisham with opportunities during Induction to spend time at Kings College Hospital.

This is an exciting opportunity for a motivated Registered Nurse to join the Viral Hepatitis Clinical Nurse specialist team. This role will be central to the provision of a range of specialist

services for patients with viral hepatitis within a unique and cohesive multi-disciplinary environment

King's Viral Hepatitis Service is the largest National provider of antiviral therapy for the treatment of chronic Hepatitis B and C Viruses and associated co-infections. As a centre of excellence it provides a unique service in the provision of care to a complex patient population and plays a central role within Kings Health Partners Academic Health Sciences centre (AHSC).

Lewisham and Greenwich NHS Trust is a community focused provider of local and acute care, providing high quality services to over one million people living across the London boroughs of Lewisham, Greenwich and Bexley.

With a turnover of around £700 million, we provide services at Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Woolwich, University Hospital Lewisham and a range of community settings in Lewisham. We also provide some services at Queen Mary's Hospital in Sidcup.

The Trust has 7,500 staff and we have recently invested in our workforce to grow our establishment across a number of key services. In 2020 we won a London NHS Parliamentary Award in recognition of a wide range of initiatives to make the organisation a great place to work. We are accredited as a flexible working employer offering a number of flexible working options for staff. We are also accredited as a London Living Wage employer for our substantive, bank and contractors.

As a local employer and anchor institution we work closely with our community to recruit locally and we welcome applications from the widest variety of people to ensure our workforce are reflective of the local communities which we serve. We encourage all suitable candidates to apply including if you are Black, Asian or other ethnic minorities, live with a disability (visible or not) or are LGBT+. We have a number of active staff networks including Disability, LGBT+, Multicultural Inclusion and Women's staff networks to bring staff together and celebrate diversity across our whole workforce.

Role responsibilities:

- To work as a viral hepatitis nurse practitioner and effectively deliver an evidence based expert nursing service within an integrated specialist team
- To develop and participate in nurse led clinics for patients with Viral Hepatitis according to agreed protocols within and externally to the Trust
- To provide co-ordinated care, in conjunction with senior members of the multidisciplinary team, for complex patients with viral hepatitis undergoing antiviral therapy
- To provide appropriate monitoring for patients with hepatitis B virus in accordance with the South East London (SEL) sector guidelines, inclusive of HCC screening
- To establish clear lines of communication and act as a liaison for all healthcare professionals involved in health care provision to facilitate integrated patient focused care

- Proactively develop educational programmes and act as a resource to other health care professionals on viral hepatitis, associated treatments and issues
- To act in an advisory capacity and as a point of contact for patients with viral hepatitis and their families, providing information, education and support

Key Working Relationships

Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust:

- Consultants
- Nursing staff
- Administrative and Secretarial staff

King's College Hospital NHS Trust:

- Institute of Liver Studies
- Consultants
- Nursing staff
- Administrative and Secretarial staff

External:

- The Hepatitis C Trust Peer Support Workers

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Clinical Practice:

- To provide a specialist nursing service for patients with viral hepatitis internal and external to the trust within an integrated team structure
- To work within the CNS team structure to provide adequate cross cover for nurse led and multi-disciplinary clinics
- To accept responsibility for ensuring that new and follow up patients undergo clinical assessment and have an accurate plan of care in line with team protocols and guidelines; this should reflect individual co-morbidities and lifestyle issues and any recommendations made
- To co-ordinate nurse-led assessments for patients requiring antiviral therapy
- Initiate, monitor and adjust antiviral treatment (AVT) regimes as necessary (depending on experience) and according to protocols, in conjunction with and under the supervision of the MDT
- To identify and initiate appropriate steps for effective care, including:
 - Requesting appropriate investigations to inform diagnosis or disease staging
 - Ensuring all patients new to the service are offered a HIV test

- Performing fibroscans (training will be provided) to contribute to clinical decision making
- Sequential monitoring of patients with HBV to identify patients with active disease
- Requesting and interpreting relevant blood tests for patients receiving AVT
- Monitoring on treatment response to inform treatment duration
- The identification of patients who require adjunctive therapies whilst on treatment
- Making and receiving referrals relating to antiviral treatment
- To monitor patients at high risk of developing complications of hepatitis including HCC as per SEL guidelines
- To impart the results of investigations and treatment outcomes sensitively to patients, implementing evidence based guidelines and clinical management plans
- To ensure continuity of a high standard of evidence-based nursing care, ensuring ongoing assessment of health, health related and nursing needs of patients, their families and other carers
- To provide expert nursing advice and support to patients, their families and other healthcare professionals following diagnosis and through treatment
- To be responsible and accountable for accurate, timely and comprehensive documentation in patient records and on liver ware in accordance with Trust standards
- To be responsible for generating a clinic letter to the patients primary care provider following each patient consultation, ensuring this reflects the content of the consultation, the plan of care and any relevant results
- Maintain patient and carer confidentiality and preserve their dignity and privacy, at all times and in all situations
- To identify, implement and maintain a suitable mechanism for MDT referrals to the Clinical Nurse Specialists
- To participate in Multi-Disciplinary Meetings (MDM) for patients with viral hepatitis to ensure adequate supervision and adherence to clinical governance
- To participate in and deliver a seamless service through enhanced MDT processes and communication
- To work with teams across primary and secondary care to implement and evaluate integrated care pathways, systems of documentation and treatment outcomes
- To actively involve service users in providing feedback of their experience of the current service and suggestions for improvements
- To contribute to the identification and development of clinical protocols and strategies to enhance both the continuity and standard of specialist care
- Deliver safe, effective, evidence-based health care by working within guidelines and using protocols developed for viral hepatitis and, in line with Trust policies and guidelines

Education:

- To provide information for parent, carers, health professional and the public about all aspects of viral hepatitis using specialist skills and knowledge, in accordance with local guidelines
- To ensure that relevant contemporary information/ literature is accessible to empower patients to make an informed choice regarding the treatment options that are available to them including clinical trials/new therapies
- To ensure that all patients are fully informed of the risks and benefits of proposed procedures, contributing to the process of securing informed consent

- To be involved in regular reviews of educational literature, liaising with service users wherever possible
- To participate in relevant fora at Care Group, Trust, PCT, Consortia and National/International Level to represent the service perspective, ensuring appropriate feedback mechanism to the CNS team is in place to disseminate relevant information
- To actively participate in raising awareness and educational events organised by the VHS, Trust and primary care sector
- To work with other clinical staff to identify knowledge gaps and training needs and implement, support and evaluate programmes of education to address any knowledge deficits
- To contribute to the development of nursing practice within the team
- To identify, apply and disseminate research findings relating to specialist nursing practice
- To participate and assist with any Trust approved research projects conducted within the department
- To act as a role model for proficiency in nursing care to other nurses and identify excellence so it can be adopted

Leadership, Planning and Organisation

- To maintain effective links within primary, secondary and tertiary care to ensure effective communication
- To engage with internal and external groups to further develop the Viral Hepatitis service and the CNS role
- To contribute to the development of clinical services across the Trust, through liaison with the Hepatitis Senior CNS
- To have responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of self in the working environment to follow safe working practices and to comply at all times with the Trust's Health and Safety Policies and Procedures
- To participate in measures to actively manage and reduce risk to patients, ensuring the formal reporting and recording of adverse incidents in line with Trust policy
- To have an awareness of the Trust's safeguarding adults policy and the procedures for dealing with vulnerable adults across primary and secondary care
- Ensure compliance with the Trust's Equality and Diversity Policy, supporting the delivery of the Trust's Race Equality Scheme and the Trust's duty to positively promote race equality and equality of opportunity for disabled people ensuring services are responsive to the needs of equality groups
- To work with and support the senior nurse specialist and other clinical staff to identify areas where changes to practice are required, identifying where opportunities exist to improve treatment and support for patients
- To assist the development and implementation of policies and guidelines in support of good clinical practice and service development
- Ensure the availability and best use of appropriate resources for patients to provide a cost effective service

Research and Audit:

- To promote research and evidence based practice relevant to the speciality, raising the profile and enhancing the contribution of nursing to patient care, this includes informing the development of the outreach programme

- Participate in local and/or national research and development initiatives as appropriate
- To maintain links with the research trials team within the care group, ensuring that knowledge of current trials available is up to date and to act as a liaison with the team on behalf of patients
- To ensure that patients entering the liver research tissue bank programme have access to the relevant written information and are consented appropriately
- To utilise and maintain information systems to aid audit and to contribute to the provision of regular activity and analysis reports
- To contribute to clinical audit, in particular ensuring patient experience surveys are completed and action plans developed
- To disseminate audit and activity data verbally and/or in written form to key stakeholders conforming to designated timelines

Personal and Professional Development:

- To adhere to and practice in accordance with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) Code of Conduct, accepting responsibility for maintaining agreed level of competence
- To achieve a range of clinical competencies as required within the Trust and care group
- To become an active Member of local and national professional groups to facilitate updating and development within specialist field
- To keep up-to-date with current literature and research in the speciality, including familiarity and international targets, guidance and strategies
- Take responsibility for self-development through the appraisal system and work towards completing agreed Personal Development Plan
- To keep up to date with NMC, relevant specialist faculty & Trust guidelines and protocols
- Take part in reflection and appropriate learning from practice to maintain and develop competence and performance
- To take responsibility for compliance with mandatory training requirements within the Trust

General

The post holder has a general duty of care for their own health, safety and wellbeing and that of work colleagues, visitors and patients within the hospital, in addition to any specific risk management or clinical governance accountabilities associated with this post.

- To observe the rules, policies, procedures and standards of King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust together with all relevant statutory and professional obligations.
- We want to be an organisation where everyone shares a commitment to delivering the very best care and feels like their contribution is valuable and valued.
- At King's and Lewisham we are a kind, respectful team:

Kind. We show compassion and understanding and bring a positive attitude to our work

Respectful. We promote equality, are inclusive and honest, speaking up when needed

Team. We support each other, communicate openly, and are reassuringly professional

- To observe and maintain strict confidentiality of personal information relating to patients and staff.
- To be responsible, with management support, for their own personal development and to actively contribute to the development of colleagues.
- This job description is intended as a guide to the general scope of duties and is not intended to be definitive or restrictive. It is expected that some of the duties will change over time and this description will be subject to review in consultation with the post holder.
- All employees must hold an 'nhs.net' email account which will be the Trust's formal route for email communication.

Safe Guarding

The Trust takes the issues of Safeguarding Children, Adults and addressing Domestic Abuse very seriously. All employees have a responsibility to support the organisation in our duties by;

- attending mandatory training on safeguarding children and adults
- familiarising themselves with the Trust's processes for reporting concerns
- reporting any safeguarding child or adult concerns appropriately

Infection Control Statement

The post holder has an important responsibility for and contribution to infection control and must be familiar with the infection control and hygiene procedures and requirements when in clinical areas.

From 1st April 2022, there is a legal requirement for staff who have contact with patients and other service users in England to be fully vaccinated (received both doses of an MHRA approved vaccine) against COVID-19. If your role is covered by the regulations, you will be required to provide proof of your full vaccination status as part of your pre-employment checks prior to your start date.

The post holder has an important responsibility for and contribution to make to infection control and must be familiar with the infection control and hygiene requirements of this role.

These requirements are set out in the National Code of Practice on Infection Control and in local policies and procedures which will be made clear during your induction and subsequent refresher training. These standards must be strictly complied with at all times.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Viral Hepatitis CNS – Band 7

	Essential	Desirable
Education and Qualifications		
First Level Registration	X	
Teaching in Clinical Practice Qualification/Preceptorship	X	
Degree in Nursing/Health related subject or working towards	X	
Advanced assessment skills or willingness to undertake		X
Knowledge and Experience		
Post registration experience in a relevant specialty; gastroenterology /hepatology/ infectious diseases	X	
Proven leadership skills in managing change in clinical practice	X	
Participation in audit and evaluation of service	X	
Background knowledge of virology and viral hepatitis	X	
Proven experience of service development	X	
Skills and Competencies		
Ability to work independently and as part of a team	X	
Creative and innovative	X	
Working within a multidisciplinary team	X	
Excellent written and oral communication skills	X	
Ability to impart complex information to patients, relatives and carers with different levels of understanding	X	
Venepuncture and interpretation of blood results	X	
Computer literature / demonstrable experience with health related IT systems	X	
Trained fibroscanner or willingness to undertake fibroscan training		X