

**ROTHERHAM DONCASTER AND SOUTH HUMBER  
NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH NURSE, MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE FOR OLDER  
PEOPLE**

**Rotherham Care Home Liaison Team**

APPOINTING OFFICER:	Community Services Manager
REPORTS TO:	Team Manager – Borough Wide Services
GRADING:	Band 6
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:	Registered Mental Health Nurse (Community Psychiatric Nurse Diploma/Degree)

**JOB SUMMARY**

**The post holder will be an integral member of the multi-disciplinary team, providing a high-quality person centred, accessible service for clients who have been referred for a range of mental health conditions and are living in a care home environment.**

**The post holder will be able to work as a care co-ordinator responsible for a select number of care homes within the Rotherham Borough. The post holder will comprehensively assess, review and evaluate the needs of patients to improve their mental health well-being whilst reducing risk of deterioration and / or acute exacerbation of underlying mental health conditions and need for hospitalisation.**

**The team specialises in non-pharmacological interventions via our Distress Behaviour Pathway and strives to provide a holistic approach. The postholder will work closely with the wider care team including staff working in care homes in order to educate and improve standards of care.**

**MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- To be responsible for the assessment, provision and evaluation of planned nursing intervention and care of older people with mental health problems living in Care Homes.
- Encouraging and developing family and community support whenever possible and appropriate.
- To provide a professional, competent mental health service to older people in Rotherham.

- To participate in the provision for an accessible specialist clinical resource to GPs, members of the Primary Health Care Team, other agencies and giving professional advice on matters pertaining to the management of the older person with mental health problems.
- To assess the mental health needs of the older person. The holistic assessment will include psychological, emotional, social and physical needs.
- To implement and evaluate planned programmes of care, along with the service user and their carer, as appropriate, taking into account risk management.
- To provide support for carers, signposting where appropriate.
- To provide for safe and effective administration of drugs, exercising responsibility for the safe custody and maintenance of statutory records of drugs in accordance with the Trust's Drug Policy.
- To use effective communication skills to enhance nurse/patient and nurse/carers relationships. To convey complex information as appropriate to the multi-disciplinary team.
- To promote and assist in effective ward discharge and placement preparation for both the patient and their family/carers.
- To liaise effectively with care home management and staff, ensuring preparation and reception of patients is organised to ensure smooth transition of care.
- To offer a range of therapeutic interventions according to need and suitability of the client.
- To provide and initiate health promotion programme of research in all areas appropriate to the maintenance of good mental health through education and practice.
- To be aware of and adhere to Child Protection and Adult Protection procedures.
- To provide continuity of care by appropriate transfer of relevant information.
- To work in collaboration with GPs, consultants and members of the multi-disciplinary teams, CSCI and Social Services to ensure high standards of care.
- To encourage and support the principles of clinical governance in line with Trust policy.
- To carry out the duties of a care co-ordinator as appropriate and regularly review clients causing concern with the guidelines of the Care Programme Approach and Section 117 as applicable.
- To participate in professional/multi-professional meetings and conferences and function as keyworker where appropriate.
- To fully participate in peer clinical supervision in accordance with the Trust's policy thus maintaining good standards of care and clinical practice.
- To participate in the Trust's annual appraisal process, ensure objectives are met and a personal development plan is maintained and measured.

- To participate in the development of an evidence-based service showing responsibility for increasing their own professional research knowledge by promoting a questioning and analytical approach to care. Keeping abreast of ideas, trends and development pertinent to the clinical area of work using published resources.
- To participate in the future planning and evaluation of the service to encourage service users and carers to become involved with service development, as appropriate.
- To participate in pilot projects and research where necessary.
- To maintain good working relationships with members of the multi-disciplinary team, inpatient services, primary care services and voluntary and private sector services in Rotherham to ensure provision of an effective and comprehensive service to older people in Rotherham.
- To provide training for and supervision of students allocated to the Community Mental Health Service for Older People.
- To work within guidelines set by the Trust, policies and procedures and those issued by professional bodies.
- To participate in audit and monitoring of set standards.
- To provide an effective link between specialist psychiatric services and the primary care team and acting in a clinical specialist capacity for advice on mental health issues to disciplines in other teams.
- To keep a diary of appointments and tender returns as required by RDASH.
- To undertake other duties and responsibilities required from time to time commensurate with the grade and level of the post.

### **SCOPE AND RANGE**

- To liaise with other professional and community agencies (both statutory and voluntary) in an advisory and supervisory role, developing and maintaining good working relationships.
- To maintain and collate accurate records of patients referred to the Community Mental Health Team as per Trust policy.
- To have responsibility to safeguard the welfare and safety of other team members during working hours by means of awareness of colleagues, caseloads and undertaking joint work where necessary.
- To observe all legal requirements of the Mental Health Act and all the relevant legislation and advising other disciplines as required.
- To exercise confidentiality, safe custody and maintenance of patient records (written/computerised).
- To deputise for the Team Leader/Manager when required.

