

HOSPITAL SERVICES

CRITICAL CARE UNIT

STAFF NURSE

BAND 5

JOB DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY OF PRACTICE AREA:

The Critical Care Unit incorporates up to two sites within the hospital, Surgical High Dependency / ICU (7 beds) and Medical High Dependency / CCU (3 beds).

JOB SUMMARY:

The post holder will be responsible for delivering a high standard of care to high dependency and critically ill patients for allocated shifts, liaising with the multidisciplinary team and offering support and advice to patients, relatives and colleagues.

The post holder will deliver individualised patient care based on principles of best practice through developing a theoretical knowledge base for the care of patients with acute physiological needs. This includes an in depth knowledge of ventilation, sepsis, renal replacement therapy and a thorough understanding of acute cardiac interventions.

The post holder will act as a role model to less experienced nursing staff and participate in the development of departmental initiatives to enhance High Dependency and Critical Care.

RELATIONSHIPS:

The post holder will report to the Manager - Critical Care Unit, be responsible to the Modern Matron - Emergency Care and be accountable to the Assistant Director – Adult Acute Service.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

PRACTICE AND PHILOSOPHY OF NURSING

1. Understand and adhere to the principles contained within the ward philosophy.

2. Show awareness and work towards meeting the agreed aims and objectives of the ward.
3. Put into practice the theory and principles of the agreed nursing model.
4. Manage total care of a group of patients within sphere of competence.
5. Supervise the practise of newly qualified and unqualified staff.
6. Ensure communication given to and received from other members of the multi-disciplinary team is effective.
7. Ensure positive outcomes by putting into everyday working practice the structure and process to meet agreed standards for nursing care.
8. Be conversant with and adhere to Nursing and Midwifery Council Code of Professional Conduct.
9. Comply with the locally agreed framework for scope of professional practice.
10. Undertake nursing procedures in accordance with the Royal Marsden Manual of Clinical Nursing Procedures.

SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide direction by acting as a named assessor facilitating junior staff nurses and learners to complete approved competency programmes.
2. Act as facilitator to qualified and unqualified nursing staff providing them with the opportunity to achieve objectives of learning contracts to attain specific competences.
3. Maintain and develop own skills to promote evidence based practice.
4. Supervise patients in all aspects of their care giving professional advice and guidance where needed.
5. Recognise own limitations by referring when necessary to other more experienced nurses.
6. Participate in clinical supervision.

ROLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Through the avenue of formal appraisal and performance interviews agree targets that enhance professional development to meet personal and organisational objectives.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the role of Team Leader and provide professional support to the post holder.
3. In the absence of the Team Leader, co-ordinate and provide leadership to the team.

4. Demonstrate an understanding and provide professional support to key members of the multi-disciplinary team.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. Take all possible steps to safeguard the welfare and safety of patients, staff and personal self in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work (General) Guernsey 1987 document.
2. Report accidents and untoward incidents to appropriate personnel and complete relevant documentation.
3. Observe safe moving and handling policies, procedures and guidelines including location and effective use of equipment. Safely undertake approved moving and handling techniques.
4. Understand the content and principles contained within the Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation and Do Not Resuscitate Policies. Be proficient in basic life support techniques and know the location and effective use of resuscitation equipment.
5. Pay due regard to fire safety regulations and content of States of Guernsey policies including location and effective use of equipment.
6. Understand and comply with the policies and procedures laid out in the approved Infection Control Manual.
7. Ensure safe use and maintenance of ward equipment giving due regard to associated risk, health and safety and decontamination procedures.
8. Understand the purpose of the Health and Social Services Major Incident Procedure and in particular the role of the nurse in charge of own work location.
9. Attend mandatory update sessions for Fire Safety, Basic Life Support and Safe Moving and Handling as defined in the appropriate policies.

KEY CRITERIA:

ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

1. Registered Nurse.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

2. Completed an approved mentor course at level 2 or equivalent.
3. Competence in intravenous drug administration.
4. Portfolio of evidence to meet KSF agreed criteria.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS / EXPERIENCE

5. Experience co-ordinating ward activities, delegating appropriately.
6. Evidence of effective communication skills with particular reference to Multidisciplinary team working, service users, carers and managers.
7. Ability to prioritise and organise own workload.
8. Understanding and ability to apply evidence based care.
9. Evidence of self and professional development.
10. Professional approach to work with the ability to maintain high professional and personal Standards and patient confidentiality.
11. Enthusiastic, motivated with a positive attitude.
12. Flexible approach to work.