

BRAIN INJURY SERVICES, ASSISTANT PSYCHOLOGIST

Job Title: Assistant Psychologist
Responsible to: Consultant Clinical Psychologist
Base: Burton Park, Leicestershire

JOB SUMMARY

Assistant Psychologists directly support registered psychologists and are embedded within the clinical teams. Key functions include (but are not limited to): contributing to psychological assessment and psychological interventions under supervision of a registered psychologist; undertaking clinically relevant audits; collecting, analysing and reporting on a range of statistics; collaborating on agreed research projects; and devising and undertaking teaching and training of staff. This is not an exclusive list but comprises examples of the type of work expected to be undertaken.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES *(Under the supervision of a registered Psychologist)*

1. Clinical

- 1.1 To contribute to psychological, behavioural and risk assessments.
- 1.2 To participate in the risk assessment process through gathering and collation of relevant information.
- 1.3 To provide, as appropriate, psychological interventions to inpatients, as prescribed by a registered psychologist and to monitor outcome.
- 1.4 To help develop group work materials, lead sessions and evaluate effectiveness.
- 1.5 To participate in community assessments and skills training.
- 1.6 To function as an effective member of the transdisciplinary team.

2. Research and Evaluation

- 2.1 By agreement, to undertake or contribute to research relevant to the service
- 2.2 Evaluate individual and ward-wide programmes.
- 2.3 Maintain a database of information routinely collected from observational recording measures and summarise results from this to inform clinical reviews.
- 2.4 Take responsibility for ensuring completion of outcome measures by the transdisciplinary team as required.
- 2.5 To contribute to written reports.

3. Teaching & Training

- 3.1 To contribute to relevant teaching and training sessions, including induction of new staff and refresher training delivered annually to all members of the transdisciplinary team.
- 3.2 To prepare teaching materials as directed.

4. Management and Administration

- 4.1 To maintain appropriate records of work undertaken, and any other information requirements.

5. Professional Development

- 5.1 To observe professional codes of conduct at all times.
- 5.2 To observe agreed operational policies.
- 5.3 To attend and contribute to professional meetings.
- 5.4 To attend supervision and to maintain records of sessions.

6. Additional

- 6.1 To undertake, by mutual agreement, an additional duties which may, from time to time, arise.
- 6.2 As a responsible member of staff duties to be carried out in an appropriate manner, and in accordance with all relevant Health and Safety legislation and guidance procedures, including those laid down by policy.
- 6.3 The post-holder must not by any act of omission, or on their part, create a threat to health and safety to any person or themselves.

The above is intended to indicate the nature of duties required and should not be regarded as an exhaustive list.

The above job description is intended to act as a flexible guide to the duties of the post and will, therefore, require revision in consultation with the post holder to reflect any changing requirements to enable the department and the Hospital to achieve their goals and objectives.

PERSON SPECIFICATION
Job title: Assistant Psychologist, BIS

	Essential	Desirable	Evidenced by
Qualifications			
Bachelor's degree in psychology with grades of minimum 2:1, which is accredited by the British Psychological Society and confers the Graduate Basis for Registration of the British Psychological Society.	✓		A/C/I
Post-graduate training in relevant areas of applied psychology, mental health practice and /or research design and analysis.		✓	A/C/I
Knowledge/Experience			
Paid or voluntary work in a health or social care setting	✓		A/I
Paid or voluntary work with people with brain injury and/or mental health difficulties	✓		A/I
Experience of working with challenging behaviour	✓		A/I
Experience of running patient therapeutic groups	✓		A/I
Experience of delivering psychological interventions and therapies in the structure of an evidenced based therapeutic model, e.g. CBT.	✓		A/I
Experience of administering and interpreting psychometric assessments under supervision		✓	A/I
Experience of working as part of a team	✓		A/I
Ability to apply existing psychological knowledge to a health context		✓	A/I
An understanding of psychology applied to health care	✓		A/I
Awareness of racial and cultural diversity issues	✓		A/I
Skills and Abilities			
To be able to communicate effectively under pressure and maintain a high degree of professionalism at all time.	✓		A/I

Excellent communication skills (written and verbal) including an ability to communicate sensitive information and work in settings in which the atmosphere may be highly emotive.	✓		A/I
To be able to work effectively within a multi-disciplinary team, contributing to effective team functioning.	✓		A/I
To assimilate complex information and use reflective/analytic thinking, to apply psychological perspectives in work in a healthcare setting	✓		A/I
High standard IT skills, including Outlook, Word, Excel and Power Point.	✓		A/I
Skills in using SPSS	✓		A/I
Ability to tolerate and remain calm in the face of high levels of emotional distress and emotional demands	✓		A/I
Need to maintain frequent high levels of concentration for long periods in managing agreed projects alone or with team members	✓		A/I
Ability to work independently on tasks assigned by the Clinical Psychologist.	✓		A/I
A desire to pursue a career in Professional Psychology		✓	A/I