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| Job title: | **Orthopaedic Clinical Nurse Specialist** |
| Accountable To: | Senior CNS |
| REPORTS TO: | Senior CNS |
| Key Working relationships: | Orthopaedic Surgeons  Orthopaedic CNS  Orthopaedic lead nurse.  CNS team  Governance team  Inpatient ward team  Physiotherapists  Theatre team  Outpatient team  Pre-operative assessment team |
| Working hours: full time | |

**JOB SUMMARY**

1. The clinical nurse specialist will provide highly specialised orthopaedic nurse-led services complementary to the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon for orthopaedic patients commensurate with national policy and Hospital strategy, in conjunction with the orthopaedic nurse already in post.
2. To facilitate the provision of a coordinated, high quality orthopaedic service (patient journey) by working collaboratively with the orthopaedic surgeons, orthopaedic CNS and lead nurse, therapy team, theatre team and other members of the multidisciplinary team.
3. To undertake clinical audit and research under the direction of the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon and have a commitment to improving practice based on research findings.
4. Developing specialist nurse-led clinics, accepting referrals, determining appropriateness and prioritising according to need.
5. Deliver formal and informal education programs for patients, carers, post graduate nurses, undergraduate nurses and professions allied to medicine.
6. Through effective leadership is able to demonstrate a positive contribution to the management of excellent individualised orthopaedic surgery patient care within the hospital, from initial patient booking to discharge.
7. To review, develop and initiate development of clinical procedures, protocols and practice to ensure the effective delivery of service to orthopaedic patients and consultants within the Hospital. These will evidence based good practice and in line with NICE and the British Orthopaedic association guidelines.
8. To provide a contact point for advice for orthopaedic patients throughout the patient journey.
9. To encourage and teach the enhanced recovery programme after surgery (ERAS) with all patients.
10. To maintain and upkeep the National Joint Registry (NJR).

**CLINICAL:**

1. To assess orthopaedic patients pre-operatively together with the (POA) team and physiotherapists regarding orthopaedic surgery POA, to ensure current best practice guidelines are followed to prepare patients for orthopaedic surgery
2. Provide the patient with comprehensive information regarding surgical procedures, ensuring informed consent
3. To liaise with orthopaedic surgery consultants and other orthopaedic CNS to ensure their protocols/ guidelines are in place and implemented.
4. Provide education and counselling regarding the range of treatment options available to the patient.
5. Independently adjust treatment plans according to need assessing appropriate management options, and initiate treatment or referral to an appropriate professional where necessary.
6. Request therapeutic procedures/interventions and evaluate the outcome of these interventions
7. To carry out a follow up phone call to offer support to orthopaedic surgery patients after discharge from hospital.
8. Manage complete programs of care in a manner which provides appropriate support for patients and their families
9. Provide/facilitate interventions which are evidence based and individualised to the patient’s needs
10. Demonstrate the ability to make sound decisions regarding patient management in the absence of specific protocols
11. Promote clinical awareness of the need for constant review and development of professional practice
12. Take action where unsatisfactory practice is identified
13. Secure agreed changes or development in practice.
14. In conjunction with the orthopaedic CNS and lead nurse; provide and keep up to date written information sheets for patients.

**MANAGEMENT**

1. Ensure effective use of physical and financial resources. Use physical and financial resources and technology effectively and in the best interests of the patient.
2. Implement changes in clinical practices in line with current national guidelines.
3. To carry out service evaluation by utilizing patient, consultant and staff feedback to develop service plans and improvements and to contribute to the strategic and operational development of orthopaedic services

Participate in the development of care pathways, protocols and clinical guidelines

1. Acting as a role model to others wishing to develop nursing roles and providing appropriate information and support
2. To work effectively and efficiently with the other orthopaedic CNS in post.

**RESEARCH:**

1. Undertake and participate in nursing and medical research
2. Continually evaluate/audit one’s own practice
3. Ensure that were possible, clinical practice is based upon available research evidence and that such evidence is disseminated to other staff to enable them to use this information in their work and improve health outcomes.
4. Seek out new knowledge by reading, enquiring and partaking of continuous education.
5. Seek to develop new skills and develop role in accordance with changing scenarios.
6. Monitor the effectiveness of current treatments and interventions with a view to improving outcomes.
7. Apply validated research findings to Clinical Practice.
8. Add to wider knowledge pool with published works in peer reviewed journals.
9. Present at national and international conferences.

**EDUCATION:**

1. Advise on the promotion of health and prevention of illness to all patient/carer groups and empower individuals to make informed health choices
2. Communicate effectively with patients and their families and assess needs and provide relevant support, information, education, advice and counselling where and when necessary
3. Act as a resource for information within the orthopaedic setting
4. Respond to educational needs of the patient/practitioner group and work in conjunction with them to establish actions to be taken
5. Facilitate the sharing of information and the development of knowledge amongst nursing and non-nursing staff
6. Teach student nurses, qualified and unqualified nursing staff, medical staff and other professionals by example, demonstration, explanation and evaluation
7. Develop and deliver training and education to support the development of nursing practice and competencies.
8. Form links with appropriate health promotion organizations and incorporate health promotion activity into the pre and post-operative consultation process
9. Identify own learning needs/development needs and appropriate approaches by which these needs can be addressed and undertake lifelong learning by maintaining personal development and knowledge.

**COMMUNICATION:**

1. Use effective therapeutic communication skills
2. Provide a telephone advice line for patients
3. Provide the opportunity for patients to be seen in the out-patients department for unscheduled visits on a “drop-in” basis.
4. To coordinate health care advice and guidance around orthopaedic surgery for staff and patients, including verbal and printed advice and ongoing monitoring of their effectiveness
5. Use of technology such as web based systems to provide patient information
6. Communicate with patients in an open, supportive and empathetic manner
7. Act as a patient advocate
8. Work as a cohesive team with the orthopaedic CNS and Lead nurse already in place.

*This is not intended to be a comprehensive description of the duties of the post. The post holder may be required to undertake other related duties not specifically mentioned above. Any changes to this role specification will be made in consultation with the post holder.*