

Job Description

Job Title: Mental Health Support Worker
Accountable to: Senior Nurse / Clinical Lead

Practice Plus Group's mission is **Access to Excellence**. Our core values are;

- we treat patients and each other as we would like to be treated
- we act with integrity
- we embrace diversity
- we strive to do things better together

Patients can only access excellence if we commit to living our values in everything we do when we're at work.



We believe in putting the patient first, regardless of the environment or their history. The prison population is one of the most vulnerable and challenged patient groups in society and the delivery of their health care is conducted within often difficult and demanding environments.

The role

As a Mental Health Support Worker, you will assist the mental health team in the delivery of immediate and, where appropriate, ongoing care for patients referred to the mental health team. You will be expected to support people to access care and treatment appropriately within the prison setting, working independently with lone working at times.

You will contribute to the positive and aspirational workings of the integrated mental health care team, ensuring that each and every patient is treated with care, respect and dignity. The post holder will provide assistance with delivery of mental healthcare needs, within the Healthcare Department.

You will;

Provide a holistic and individualised approach to care and improve the lives of people with mental ill health by minimising the impact of their condition through the delivery of excellent services and promoting recovery. You will provide evidence based interventions within the Practice Plus Group health care wellbeing model.

Deliver triage of patients and using decision support systems, refer for a GP or Nurse Consultation as necessary. You will contribute to the care and documentation (ACCT) required for those individuals being at risk of self-harm or suicide as per prison policy and undertake patient risk assessments and take appropriate professional action when the nature of behaviour, symptoms or illness are likely to lead to self-harm or injury to others.

Inspire and act professionally at all times and to treat all patients and colleagues with dignity and respect whilst supporting newly appointed staff by demonstrating knowledge of practice area, policy and procedure.



Promote safe practice under the guidance of Practice Plus Group and HMP Service policies and protocols, not undertaking any task outside the boundary of individual's competence.

Share a good working knowledge of talking therapies and comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act, maintaining a safe working environment for both staff and patients. You will work within the framework of the Medicines Act, Health and Safety at Work Act and COSHH under the direction of the team leader.

About you

- Willingness to undertake training in mental health awareness, suicide, self harm and ACCT procedures as well as health promotion and screening.
- Previous experience as a mental health support worker.
- Good interpersonal skills
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Good organisational skills
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to work in partnership with other agencies.
- Ability to treat service users with respect and dignity at all times, adopting a culturally sensitive approach, which considers the needs of the whole person.
- Able to build constructive relationships with warmth and empathy, using good communication skills.
- Ability to work within a pressurised environment.



Additional information

Disclosure and Barring Service- a Disclosure and Barring Service disclosure at the enhanced level is required for this role. A risk assessment will be undertaken if necessary.

Prison Vetting- a HMPPS (Her Majesties Prison and Probation Service) clearance is required for this role in accordance with Ministry of Justice, plus local prison vetting.

Education and Training- continuing professional development is encouraged and an annual appraisal system is in place to discuss ongoing objectives and support revalidation.