

Job Description

Post Title:	Advanced Practitioner
Grade/Salary:	Salary up to £45,000, depending on experience and qualifications
Location:	Bridge View Medical, Bedminster
Responsible to:	A designated lead GP Partner
Hours:	Full time
Contract:	Permanent

Job Summary

The post holder is an experienced clinician who, acting within their professional boundaries, will provide care for the presenting patient from initial history taking, clinical assessment, diagnosis, treatment and evaluation of care. They will demonstrate safe, clinical decision-making and expert care, including assessment and diagnostic skills, for patients within the general practice. The post holder will demonstrate critical thinking in the clinical decision-making process. They will work collaboratively within the BVM clinical team to meet the needs of patients, supporting the delivery of policy and procedures, and providing clinical leadership as required. In order to work at this level NMC / HCPC requirements for advanced practice must be met.

Working as an autonomous clinician as part of the BVM team of nurses and doctors in the delivery of face to face consultations with some telephone advice. You will be expected to see patients independently, diagnose and treat within the setting of the GP facility and in patients' homes. At times, you will be operating as a single clinician with support from a reference doctor.

At all times the post holder must act in a manner consistent with the code of conduct and appearance representing BVM Surgery and the NHS.

Clinical

- Assess, diagnose, plan, implement and evaluate treatment/interventions and care for patients presenting with an undifferentiated diagnosis.
- Clinically examine and assess patient needs from a physiological and psychological perspective, and plan clinical care accordingly.
- Assess, diagnosis, plan, implement and evaluate interventions/treatments for patients with complex needs.
- Proactively identify, diagnose and manage treatment plans for patients at risk of developing a long-term condition (as appropriate).
- Diagnose and manage acute conditions, integrating both drug- and non-drug-based treatment methods into a management plan.
- Prescribe and review medication for therapeutic effectiveness, appropriate to patient needs and in accordance with evidence-based practice and national and practice protocols, and within scope of practice.
- Work with patients in order to support compliance with and adherence to prescribed treatments.
- Provide information and advice on prescribed or over-the-counter medication on medication regimens, side-effects and interactions (within scope of practice.)

- Prioritise health problems and intervene appropriately to assist the patient in complex, urgent or emergency situations, including initiation of effective emergency care.
- Support patients to adopt health promotion strategies that promote healthy lifestyles, and apply principles of self-care.
- Assess, identify and refer patients presenting with mental health needs in accordance with the NSF for Mental Health.
- To provide face-to-face and telephone clinical assessment/treatment and management plan to BVM patients.
- To provide clinical support to doctors within the BVM team.
- To undertake visits at patients' home as required and within scope of practice.
- Continue to develop and expand own personal clinical expertise as autonomous/independent practitioner.
- In partnership with others, challenge and critically evaluate the boundaries of autonomous practice, such that patient access choice and outcomes will improve.
- Help in the development and evaluation of clinical guidelines, and competency tools to support clinicians in the expansion of their roles in the delivery of optimal care.
- Develop own areas of specific clinical expertise in order to link acute, primary, community and emergency care sectors in expanding advanced practice within BVM Surgery.
- Nurses as prescribers must maintain competencies for prescribing portfolio and have a regular audit of their prescribing.

Communication

- Utilise and demonstrate sensitive communication styles, to ensure patients are fully informed and consent to treatment.
- Communicate with and support patients who are receiving 'bad news'.
- Communicate effectively with patients and carers, recognising the need for alternative methods of communication to overcome different levels of understanding, cultural background and preferred ways of communicating.
- Anticipate barriers to communication and take action to improve communication.
- Maintain effective communication within the BVM clinical and operational team including with the multi- disciplinary team members and external stakeholders.
- Act as an advocate for patients and carers.
- Ensure awareness of sources of support and guidance and provide information in an acceptable format to all patients, recognising any difficulties and referring where appropriate.
- To be able to maintain accurate electronic written patient records using EMIS.
- To be aware of responsibilities under the Data Protection Act.
- To attend regular team meetings.
- To ensure effective communication with colleagues, within the community and wider health care teams as appropriate when referring a patient.

Other responsibilities

- Adhere to organisational policies.
- Manage and maintain clinical records as required.
- Maintain active NMC / HCPC registration.
- Understand own role and scope and identify how this may develop over time.
- Work as an effective and responsible team member, supporting others and exploring the mechanisms to develop new ways of working as part of continuous quality improvement.

- Delegate clearly and appropriately, adopting the principles of safe practice and assessment of competence.
- Create clear referral mechanisms to meet patient needs.
- Prioritise own workload and ensure effective time-management strategies are embedded within the culture of the team.
- Work effectively with others to clearly define values, direction and policies impacting upon care delivery.
- Manage and assess risk within the areas of responsibility, ensuring adequate measures are in place to protect staff and patients.
- Monitor work areas and practices to ensure they are safe and free from hazards and conform to health, safety and security legislation, policies, procedures and guidelines.
- Maintaining regular consistent attendance, punctuality, personal appearance and adherence to relevant health and safety procedures.
- To have a good understanding and follow company policies and procedures.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and the general public.
- Attend performance and development reviews with your line manager.

Job Description updated 12 Feb 2017