

PSYCHIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER

FUNCTION OF THE JOB

Under the direction of and in collaboration with a physician, to provide mental health and substance use diagnoses, care, and treatment of patients in a comprehensive mental health treatment program and to perform other duties as required.

CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provides mental health and substance use assessments, diagnoses, treatment plans and medication management, and evaluates progress of psychiatric patient's caseload on an inpatient and/or outpatient basis.
2. Secures comprehensive health histories, performs or requests special diagnostic and laboratory tests, interprets test results, performs appropriate physical assessments and develops comprehensive treatment plans.
3. Prescribes medications, reports adverse findings to collaborating/attending physician and refers appropriately for consultation or specialty medical services.
4. Provides direct and/or indirect patient care oriented towards improving or maintaining health and preventing illness.
5. Responsible for the continuing care of assigned patients and for making appropriate dispositions or referrals and acting as liaison to other community resources.
6. Consults with other staff members regarding their treatment of individual patients.
7. Communicates with clinicians regarding patient status and progress to provide education, guidance, case management, and follow-up, in order to assure continuity of care.
8. Participates as a member of the multi-disciplinary evaluation team.
9. Prepares and maintains all appropriate treatment records, charts, and reports.
10. Participates in quality assurance activities.
11. Participates in conferences, staff meetings, seminars, and in-service training or teaching programs.
12. Performs emergency government duties as assigned in the event of Waukesha County Emergency Government declaration.
13. Establishes and maintains effective working relations with clients and their families, staff, other professionals, agencies, and the general public.
14. Performs other duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS

Essential Knowledge and Abilities

1. Comprehensive knowledge of nursing principles and clinical therapeutic models including the modern principles, practices, and techniques used in assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating nursing care for psychiatric populations.
2. Comprehensive knowledge of psychotropic medications and nursing protocols relevant to community psychiatric nursing.
3. Comprehensive knowledge of principles and practices of clinical assessment, common health problems, mental health, substance use, clinical consultation, continuity of patient care and the community aspects of health services.
4. Considerable knowledge of the role of mental health and substance use programs, services, and activities and the objectives of an agency providing these services.
5. Considerable knowledge of state and federal confidentiality laws and regulations, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996.

QUALIFICATIONS

Essential Knowledge and Abilities (continued)

6. Working knowledge of computers and department program software, internet access, and database, spreadsheet and word processing programs.
7. Working knowledge of the legal aspects of nursing with respect to relevant programs and how the laws relate to the patient.
8. Ability to apply relevant theoretical principles of Advanced Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing practice.
9. Ability to apply sound clinical skills in assessing, diagnosing, prescribing, implementing, and evaluating a plan of treatment for persons with psychiatric disorders.
10. Ability to assess progress and encourage positive change, taking into account cultural and clinical considerations, and the client's own wishes and definitions.
11. Ability to respond in a crisis situation and to provide skilled treatment to clients with severe problems.
12. Ability to work effectively with individuals and families to assist them in solving physical, mental, and social problems, with members of the health team and other allied professionals.
13. Ability to provide detailed records and reports.
14. Ability to work collaboratively as a member of a multidisciplinary team.
15. Ability to utilize electronic health record, word processing, database, and spreadsheet programs.
16. Ability to effectively interact with sensitivity with persons from diverse cultural, socioeconomic, educational, racial, ethnic, and professional backgrounds, and persons of all ages and lifestyles.
17. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relations with clients and their families, staff, other professionals, agencies, and the general public.

Training and Experience

1. Graduation from a recognized college or university with a Master of Science in Nursing.
2. Current license to practice as a Registered Nurse in the State of Wisconsin.
3. Certification by the American Nurses Credentialing Center as a Psychiatric/Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist or Nurse Practitioner or possession of a State waiver of equivalency.
4. Current license as an Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriber by the State of Wisconsin.