

Job Description for Specialty Doctor in Homeopathy

There are 5 clinical sessions which will be divided between a Specialty doctor and Clinical Nurse Practitioner.

During each session, one New and 6 -7 Return patients will be seen and homeopathic treatment prescribed. Repertorisation can be carried out using ISIS. Following the consultations, letters are then dictated to referring GPs and relevant Hospital Consultants regarding proposed treatment. Repeat prescriptions are issued as requested.

Prescriptions are issued for all patients in Tayside using 'Vision' if possible but may have to be hand written if relevant remedies not in 'Vision'. Scripts need to be hand written for patients coming from Fife if GPs not willing to issue them.

The electronic appointment system TOPAS is used and this has added more flexibility for seeing urgent referrals and filling cancellations and the DNA rate has reduced although patients seem to prefer the paper method of choosing their appointment day and time.

Telephone consultations are carried out if patients are unable to attend as this helps to reduce waiting times and wasted appointments.

Consultant Cover : There is no consultant cover for the clinic but tertiary referrals can be made to the Glasgow Homeopathic Hospital for inpatient or outpatient care if required.

Management Responsibilities: Meetings take place every three months with the Clinical Co-ordinator to deal with management issues, practical problems in running the service, secretarial cover etc.

Clinical Governance: The Clinical Governance team have conducted Patient Satisfaction Surveys of the Homeopathy Service in the past which indicated that the service is highly valued by patients. These will probably need to be carried out again from time to time.

Clinical Audit: Audit data has been collected after every clinic appointment regarding outcomes of treatment with homeopathy. Clinical Governance analysed data in March 2008 for patients who first attended in 2005 and this showed that 77% of patients had improved with 53% showing marked improvement. This was consistent with the previous year's findings. The successful applicant will develop their own audit data.

Continuing Professional Development. The Faculty of Homeopathy offers regular teaching and the Specialty doctor will be expected to attend this according to the Faculty requirements for maintaining Membership.

Teaching: Final year medical students have previously been able to do a Complementary Medicine SSC module and spent a month sitting in on clinic sessions and learning consultation skills and basic homeopathic prescribing. This has not been on offer for the last 2 years but may be reintroduced and will involve formal and informal teaching. Medical students in other years sometimes do projects in Homeopathy which require assessment from the clinician.

Responsibility for Record Management: All records created in the course of business of NHS Tayside are corporate records and are public records under the terms of Public Records (Scotland) Act 1937. This includes email messages and other electronic records. It is your responsibility to ensure that you keep appropriate records of your work in NHS Tayside and manage those records in keeping with the NHS Tayside Records Management Policy and with any guidance produced by NHS Tayside specific to your employment.