

Job Description

Job Title: Senior Healthcare Assistant

Band: B

Reporting to: Hospice at Home Sister/Charge Nurse
Hospice at Home Manager

Job purpose:

To provide direct support to patients with end-of-life care needs, assisting members of the Hospice at Home, Community and other teams to offer the highest standards of care to patients and their families.

To assist in providing 24-hour nursing care to patients in the last two weeks of life and to provide emotional and practical support to their family or carers.

To liaise and communicate regularly with the appropriate member of the Rowcroft Hospice at Home service and when required with the Primary Care Team.

Our Vision is to make every day the best day possible for our patients and their families in South Devon. As a member of our Hospice at Home Team you will deliver this by supporting families to care for their loved one at home.

Our Values:

Honesty & Integrity Generosity of Spirit Respect Team Player

Key roles and responsibilities:

- Provides care for named patients with end-of-life care needs, usually in their own homes, in accordance with the patients care plan as defined by the Rowcroft Hospice at Home RN / District Nurse with minimum direct supervision.
- Assist in maintaining high standards and quality of nursing care within agreed policies and procedures.
- Assist in the care and support of patients with specific needs who are at the end of life in their own homes.
- Participate in developing a cohesive, supportive and effective working team.
- Be aware of the patients' and family members' emotional, social and physical needs and where appropriate reporting to relevant staff.
- Recognise changes in patients' symptoms and conditions and to report these changes to the Hospice at Home RN and /or Primary Care Team members and to seek advice as necessary.
- Monitors the delivery of medication via syringe drivers and undertakes first line trouble shooting when problems occur.
- Care for the body after death and supports family members/carers after death
- Actively take part in specified practical procedures following training and assessment.
- Accurately record information on the electronic database

- Continually maintain Rowcroft hospice standards as stipulated by hospice policies and procedures and in accordance with the Care Quality Commission essential standards.
- Abide by Rowcroft Hospice's Codes of Practice.
- Be responsible for the care and appropriate use of equipment at all times.
- Attend and participate in team meetings and training sessions as required.
- Undertake any training identified through the appraisal system and to keep up to date with current developments in nursing and palliative care.
- Take part in both formal and informal teaching.
- Work on the hospice Inpatient Unit as directed.

Area

1. Hospice at Home
2. Inpatient Unit

Training, Education & Research

1. Promote a culture of learning and development and wellbeing, help to create an environment that is continually critically questioning practice and promoting learning
2. Identify your own learning and development needs undertake continuous professional development and actively engage in clinical supervision, maintaining an objective and innovative practice.

This list can never be exhaustive but covers most of the work you'll be doing. What it can't replace is talent, initiative and a commitment to great customer service.

Infection Prevention

All Rowcroft employees both clinical and non-clinical are required to adhere to the Infection Prevention and Control Policies and make every effort to maintain high standards of infection control at all times to reduce the burden of Healthcare Associated Infections, including MRSA.

You agree to the following responsibilities:

1. To decontaminate your hands prior to and after direct patient care or contact with the patient's surroundings.
2. To take part in mandatory infection control training provided.
3. To responsibly manage your own infections (other than common colds and illness) that may be transmittable to patients, including contacting Occupational Health for guidance.

PERSON SPECIFICATION
Hospice at Home Senior Healthcare Assistant

Attribute	Essential Requirements	Desirable Requirements
Qualifications and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCF level 3 in Health and Social Care or equivalent. • Willingness to attend appropriate training in Palliative Care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCF level 3 unit 'Support Individuals at the end of life'
Knowledge and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to use own initiative and prioritise workload. • Ability to work effectively in a team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of using an electronic database
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant experience as a Health Care Assistant in a health care environment • Previous work experience in • palliative care and/or community care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous Hospice experience • Previous Lone Worker experience
Personal Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership through creative problem solving, a positive can-do attitude and a willingness and desire to ensure all who come into contact with Rowcroft have the best possible experience. • A desire to be part of a committed and hardworking team in line with the ethics and values of Rowcroft Hospice, acting in the best interests of Rowcroft at all times. • Excellent verbal and written communication skills. • Ability to cope with sensitive issues. • Excellent interpersonal skills • Proven ability to work within a • Multidisciplinary team. • Confidence to work with indirect supervision. • Ability to be flexible - working day and night shifts as the service requires. • Ability to travel to varying work locations during unsocial hours • Ability to travel within the South Devon Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good understanding of the purpose, values and strategy of Rowcroft Hospice.