Role Title: Clinical Nurse Specialist – Epilepsy

Purpose of the Role: The purpose of this role is to provide specialist nursing expertise on the management of patients with Epilepsy. The successful candidate will work as a member of the multidisciplinary team providing a patient centred, quality and seamless service. The National Clinical Programme for Epilepsy (HSE, 2012) is based on three main objectives; to improve the quality of care we deliver to all users, to improve access to all services and to improve cost effectiveness.

Department/Directorate: Neurology/ Epilepsy service. Medical Directorate.

Key Reports: Operationally: Sharon Slattery, Directorate Nurse Manager Professionally: Paul Gallagher, Director of Nursing Clinically: Dr Colin Doherty. Epileptologist/ Neurologist.

Key Direct Reports: Staff Nurses, Support Staff, Student Nurses as appropriate On clinical matters only

Grade: CNM II

Salary Scale: €47,089 - €55,852

Job Reference Number: 32507/16

Enquiries To: Ms. Sharon Slattery, Ext 3386, Bleep 253, email sslattery@stjames.ie Dr. Colin Doherty email cdoherty@stjames.ie

Closing Date: Friday 13th May, 2016.

Key Duties and Responsibilities:

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The Epilepsy Nurse Service at St James’s Hospital (SJH) is the regional epilepsy centre for Dublin Mid Leinster providing expert care under the direction of the HSE Clinical Care Programme and in line with key aims and objectives;

- patient advocacy
- expert timely advice and support for epilepsy patients
- Improved integration of care, and a collaborative patient centred approach in the management and delivery of services for patients with chronic disease (HSE, 2012).
He / she will work closely with the Epilepsy services, Primary Care Services, Intellectual Disability Services and Maternity Services within the Group and nationally.

This CNS is a registered nurse who has extensive experience and clinical expertise in caring for patients with epilepsy. The role will encompass a major clinical focus (direct & indirect) comprising of assessment, planning and delivery of patient care that is done in collaboration with medical and other healthcare professionals.

The management of patients with epilepsy demands a broad range of professional skills and knowledge, as well as skills in communication, leadership, teaching, education, research and counselling. The CNS will have the expertise and specialist knowledge to incorporate these skills into practice and so develop standards of care that benefit the patient. In so doing, the CNS will embrace the five core concepts of the clinical nurse specialist role to ensure the provision of a high quality holistic service for the patients in need of the service, and to enhance the health status of this patient population.

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**Clinical Focus**

- To provide specialist knowledge, expertise and care to patients with epilepsy. This will be at a higher level of autonomy and decision-making in patient management as defined by protocols.
- To assess, plan, deliver, and evaluate care to patients and their families, in the inpatient, satellite, ED, virtual & ambulatory care setting.
- To monitor patients on an ongoing basis, to evaluate outcomes and adjust nursing care practice to ensure optimum co-ordination and delivery of care.
- To evaluate and develop professional scope of practice through ongoing evaluation and monitoring of the role of the CNS.
- To attend multidisciplinary meetings and ward rounds, and participate in team discussions regarding treatment needs as appropriate.
- Contribute where appropriate in formulating or updating policies and procedures, which comply with agreed best practices.
- Work with the multidisciplinary clinical team to meet the needs of patients and their families.
- Evaluate clinical problems in conjunction with the medical team; co-ordinate investigation, therapy and patient follow up.
- Demonstrate vision, innovation and flexibility in nursing practice.
- Formulate discharge plans, which ensure continuity of patient care by liaising with other professionals in the hospital and community.
- To work in collaboration with the community care and primary care services offering specialist advice and develop education programmes.

**Patient/Client Advocate**

- Ensure that regard is taken to the dignity, choices, self-esteem and well-being of patients and their relatives.
• In collaboration with patients, take available opportunities to represent views of and negotiate on behalf of individual patients/patient groups at a multidisciplinary level and with other personnel or agencies as appropriate.
• Play a central role in directing patients to specialist advocacy services as appropriate.

Education and Training
• To provide a high level of professional and clinical leadership and to demonstrate innovative practice in the provision of care in line with the Scope of Professional Practice and service needs.
• Develop and facilitate education and support programmes, for patients and their families and professional staff.
• To participate in undergraduate and postgraduate nursing programmes as requested.
• Ensure patients and staff have access to relevant education material, and develop new material as required.
• Assist in training members of the multidisciplinary team in changes in practice in the delivery of care including the provision of ward based teaching.
• Use relevant educational opportunities to maintain the highest standard of care to respiratory patients.
• Raise awareness regarding the benefits of treatment through health promotion.
• Organisation and training of incoming staff, medical, nursing and clerical.

Audit and Research
• Maintain awareness within the speciality of current developments in respiratory nursing care.
• To establish, implement and evaluate audit programmes of the service, the quality of patient care and the CNS current practice, in line with local and regional developments, to include monitoring and evaluation of educational and health promotion programmes as relevant.
• To identify areas of practice for evaluation and evaluate current practice and improved methods of care against current peer reviewed research findings. Disseminate research findings to Nursing colleagues, Nurse Managers and the multidisciplinary team.
• Use research findings to influence care within the speciality.
• Ensure that accurate documentation and record keeping is maintained.
• Maintain awareness of, and participate as appropriate in multidisciplinary research projects.
• Develop a system for recording clinical activity.
• Participate in maintenance of service databases as appropriate.
• Provide updates of service reports to Nurse Manager and Consultants and produce an Annual report for the Hospital.

Consultant
• Provide specialist knowledge, expertise and care in liaison with the multi-disciplinary team.
• Actively participate in the education and development of nurses and healthcare professionals in respiratory care on a hospital and community basis.
• To establish and standardise clear communication channels for referrals and consultations, inter and intra disciplinary.

* The above Role Profile is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all duties involved and consequently the post holder may be required to perform other duties as appropriate to the post which may be assigned to him/her from time to time and to contribute to the development of the post while in office. This Role Profile will be subject to review in the light of changing circumstances.
**Academic/Professional Qualifications and/or relevant Experience**

**Required:**
- Registered General Nurse by NMBI or eligible to register with NMBI.
- 5 years post-registration experience in the acute hospital setting within the last 7 years.
- A minimum of two years experience in the specialist area of epilepsy.
- Relevant post graduate qualification at level 8 (higher Diploma or Honours degree) or above on the HQAI framework
- Formal recognised post-registration education relevant to the area of specialist practice at level 8 (higher Diploma or Honours degree) or above on the HQAI framework or a commitment to undertake within an agreed timeframe. **Candidates without the relevant post-grad course will be appointed as Clinical Nurse Manager II.**

**Desirable:**
- Management experience
- Nurse Prescribing Certificate

**Technical/Clinical Competencies**

**Required:**
- IT skills
- Experience in teaching and assessing junior staff/nursing students/ MDT colleagues.

**Desirable:**
- N/A

**SJH Behavioural Competencies (From the Competency Framework, please list the relevant behavioural competency, the level required (level 1, 2 or 3) and the descriptors that are most relevant for the role)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency Required</th>
<th>Level Required</th>
<th>The following “Descriptors” are a further clarification of the behaviours required. Candidates should use these descriptors as a “guide” when assessing their suitability for this role and also when preparing an example of where they have demonstrated this competency in the past for inclusion in the required Application Form.</th>
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</table>
| **Leadership**      | 2              | - Embraces organisational **change initiatives**, establishing structure/roles to support it  
- Is **politically attuned**, knows when and how to communicate with key stakeholders  
- Shows strong **initiative**; can work outside of standard protocol when necessary  
- **Motivates** and **encourages** others to achieve goals |
| **Communication**    | 2              | - Keeps key people **informed**, sharing information in a timely and open manner  
- Supports ideas with appropriate **research** and information to persuade others  
- Documents important/relevant communication. |
| Problem Solving and decision Making | 2 | • **Consults** with others to improve decision making  
• Able to recognise early warning signs of potential problems and take **pre-emptive action**  
• Able to **act quickly** to address urgent matters  
• Accurately **anticipates** likely consequences of actions/decisions (both short and long term) |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Quality Service                    | 2 | • Shows **resourcefulness**, flexibility and initiative in difficult situations  
• Utilises research and **evidenced based** practices when providing services  
• Understands the role of **multi-disciplinary teams** for patient care.  
• Understands and respects the rights of **service-users**. |
| Planning and organizing            | 2 | • Ensures most effective allocation and use of **resources**  
• Manages competing and changing **priorities**  
• Consistently **plans ahead** to meet important deadlines |
| Continuous Learning and Development| 3 | • Is known as a **clinical resource** for others.  
• Encourages investment in **continuous learning**; is a role model for others in this regard.  
• Uses **professional bodies** to improve knowledge and resources  
• Stays abreast of **new technologies / research** relevant to chosen field. |
| Competency                         | Level | Required | Appropriate Descriptors |
| **Desirable**                      |      |          |                         |

**Proficiency in the English language**

A level of proficiency in the English language, written and spoken, is a requirement of all roles within St. James’s Hospital. You will be required to self assess your proficiency level in the Standard Application Form. **In addition, your proficiency in spoken English will be assessed during the interview process appropriate to the role available.**

**Particulars of Office**

1. The appointment to this post will be **Permanent, Full-Time & Pensionable.**
2. Annual Leave allowance is **25-28 days** per annum. Please note that annual leave allowances may be amended in line with directives from the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
3. The person appointed must not give less than **one month’s notice**, in writing, of intention to resign.
4. Normal working hours will be **39 per week**
5. You will be required to work the agreed roster / on call arrangements advised to you by your line manager. Your contracted hours of work are liable to change between the

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hours of 8.00am - 8pm over seven days to meet the requirements for extended day services in accordance with the terms of the Framework Agreement

**General Conditions**

1. The Hospital Board will not be responsible for the loss or theft of personal belongings.
2. Fire orders must be observed and staff must attend fire lectures annually.
3. All accidents within the department must be reported immediately.
4. In accordance with the “Safety, Health and Welfare at work act 1989”, all staff must comply with all safety regulations.
5. In line with the Tobacco Regulations Act 1990 Smoking within the hospital buildings is Not Permitted.

**Confidentiality**

In the course of your employment you may have access to or hear information concerning the medical or personal affairs of patients and/or staff, or other health services business. Such records and information are strictly confidential and unless acting on the instructions of an authorised officer, on no account must information concerning staff, patients or other health service business be divulged or discussed except in the performance of normal duty. In addition records must never be left in such a manner that unauthorised persons can obtain access to them and must be kept in safe custody when no longer required.

**Health:**

A candidate for and any person holding the office must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

**Infection Control & Hygiene**

It is the responsibility of all staff across the hospital to ensure that infection control and hygiene standards are adhered to and maintained at all times.

**Recruitment Process**

- Approval to Hire (VAF process)
- Hiring Manager – Role Profile
- Advertising
- Application Process (Standard Application Form)
- Shortlisting of Candidates will be based on information provided in Standard Application Form
- Interview Process
- All applicants who move to the 2nd stage of the Selection process (i.e. post interview) will be subject to Reference Checking X 2, Self Declaration, Garda Clearance, Occupational Health Screening (Questionnaire) and relevant Qualification/Professional Membership validation.
- All external successful candidates who take up appointment will be required to attend a 1 week Mandatory Induction Programme.
**For External Applicants:**

The Application Form is available under **Nursing Posts** section of Careers webpage.

Alternatively, please contact the Human Resources Directorate for an application form, Ph: 00 353 (0) 1 4162559 or Email: humanresources@stjames.ie. Please note closing date **Friday, 13th May 2016** for receipt of **completed** application forms. C.V.s will not be accepted.

A panel may be formed from which future vacancies may be filled.

*St. James’s Hospital is an Equal Opportunities Employer*