

SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

REGISTERED NURSE - JUVENILE

Spec No. 2140

BASIC FUNCTIONS

Provides nursing services and assists with medical services for residents in the Juvenile Detention Services facilities.

STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES

1. Evaluates new residents with urgent or communicable health problems prior to admission. After admission screens for medical/behavioral health issues and for medication and treatment needs, including substance abuse issues. Makes recommendations as to room placement for residents with physical or mental health conditions.
2. Establishes priorities in emergency medical situations.
3. Evaluates medical/health problems and complaints of residents: obtains history; monitors vital signs and physical assessment parameters as indicated; contacts parents/guardians, health care providers and dentists to verify medical/dental/behavioral health problems, medications, treatments, and appointments; monitors residents' illnesses, diseases and injuries. Implements orders from Juvenile Detention Services (JDS) and community health care providers.
4. Keeps daily nursing logs; establishes medical charts on residents; maintains appropriate documentation of nursing and medical care provided.
5. Receives and maintains security for all medications, including controlled substances; writes up medication orders for drug dosages and medication times and administers residents' medications; may assist to identify drugs brought into detention.
6. Verifies or initiates medical diets as needed.
7. Conducts nursing assessments on long-term residents to include review and update of medical/nursing problems and health care plans; makes referrals to JDS health care provider as needed.
8. Educates and counsels residents regarding disease/illness processes and self-care. Trains and supervises unlicensed staff who administer admissions screening or assist in providing care to residents with health/medical needs. Provides health care plans for individual residents.
9. Confers with parents/guardians, mental health professionals and/or JDS health care provider regarding mental health/behavioral health issues; provides suicide screening/interventions and arranges crisis evaluations as needed. Documents

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mental/behavioral health status and changes. Participates in planning for behavior management programs.

10. Assists Director of Health Services/Program Manager in review of Health Services unit policies, procedures and practices. Assists in review of other JDS policies and procedures that pertain to resident and staff health and safety.
11. Orders medical and other supplies. Assists in review of medical/health care billings for payment.

STATEMENT OF OTHER JOB DUTIES

12. May escort residents to hospitals, doctor's appointments, and public health facilities for medical care.
13. Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from an accredited school of professional nursing and a current State of Washington license as a professional registered nurse; AND, One (1) year experience in an acute care hospital, clinic or health care agency; AND, One (1) year experience in working with adolescents is preferred. Must pass job related tests.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for employment must successfully pass a criminal history background investigation, reference verification, polygraph examination, a psychological examination and a physical examination.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- professional nursing principles and concepts;
- medications and expected action and side effects;
- body physiological and anatomical systems;
- laboratory values and their meanings;
- individual and group behavior.

Ability to:

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- perform basic physical assessment and nursing procedures;
- use basic laboratory and other medical equipment;
- make prompt, accurate, independent decisions in emergency situations;
- interpret a variety of medical, social, and psychological data;
- diagnose and treat a limited number of easily recognizable diseases and illnesses as specified in standing orders of a qualified health care provider;
- write and speak in a clear and concise manner;
- effectively communicate with residents, parents/guardians, co-workers and community health care providers.

SUPERVISION

Employee independently performs duties assigned as a cooperative member of a medical / health services team and as assigned by the Director of Health Services or Program Manager.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The work is performed in a maximum security juvenile detention facility. Employees are required to work weekends, shifts and holidays as assigned. Employees may be required to restrain, lift or move residents for emergency medical purposes.

Class Established: August 1980

Previous Spec No. 371357

Revised and Re-titled: December 1986

Revised: March 1996, March 1998, September 1999, December 2001, April 2004, January 2006, February 2006

EEO Category: 2 - Professionals

Pay Grade: 241 – Classified Pay Plan

Workers Comp: 5306 Non-Hazardous