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First-Contact Physiotherapist GPS Associate

Job Title: First-Contact Physiotherapist.
Location: National. (various locations available across the UK)
Directorate: Primary Care. (NHS England & the devolved nations)
Reports to: GPS Flexible Workforce Office. (FWO)

Job summary.

Are you an accomplished physiotherapist eager to be at the forefront of transforming patient care in primary care settings? We are seeking dedicated and highly skilled first-contact physiotherapists to join our dynamic team. In this pivotal role, you will be the initial point of contact for patients presenting with musculoskeletal issues, providing expert assessment, diagnosis, and management. This role offers a unique opportunity to operate autonomously within diverse clinical environments, driving innovations in patient care while collaborating with a multidisciplinary team to enhance health outcomes across the UK.

As a first-contact physiotherapist, you will play a crucial role in streamlining patient pathways, reducing waiting times, and ensuring effective management of musculoskeletal conditions. This position not only allows you to apply your advanced clinical skills but also contributes significantly to improving patient access to high-quality physiotherapy services.

Key responsibilities.

Clinical assessment and management.

- Conduct thorough assessments of patients presenting with musculoskeletal conditions, including detailed history taking, physical examinations, and diagnostic evaluations.
- Develop and implement personalised treatment plans based on clinical findings, patient needs, and evidence-based practice.
- Provide expert guidance on managing acute and chronic musculoskeletal conditions, including pain management, rehabilitation, and functional recovery.

Patient care and support.

- Deliver high-quality physiotherapy interventions, such as manual therapy, exercise therapy, and patient education.
- Collaborate with patients to set realistic goals, monitor progress, and adjust treatment plans to ensure optimal outcomes.
- Offer advice on self-management strategies and lifestyle modifications to enhance recovery and prevent recurrence.

Multidisciplinary collaboration

- Work closely with GPs, other physiotherapists, and healthcare professionals to coordinate patient care and ensure comprehensive management.

- Participate in case discussions, multidisciplinary team meetings, and strategic planning to enhance service delivery and patient outcomes.

Service innovation and improvement.

- Contribute to the development and implementation of clinical protocols, guidelines, and best practices to improve patient care and service efficiency.
- Engage in research and quality improvement initiatives to advance physiotherapy practice and enhance patient experience.

Education and training.

- Provide mentorship and support to junior physiotherapists and other healthcare staff, sharing expertise and best practices.
- Participate in ongoing professional development activities, including training, workshops, and conferences, to stay current with advancements in physiotherapy.

Compliance and documentation.

- Ensure all clinical activities comply with NHS policies, care quality commission (CQC) standards, and general data protection regulation (GDPR) requirements.
- Maintain accurate and detailed patient records, ensuring confidentiality and adherence to regulatory standards.

Person Specification.

Qualifications & experience.

- Degree in Physiotherapy or equivalent qualification.
- Registration with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).
- Additional postgraduate training or certification in musculoskeletal physiotherapy is desirable.
- Significant experience in musculoskeletal physiotherapy, with a proven track record of managing complex cases.
- Experience in a primary care or first-contact physiotherapy setting is highly desirable.

Skills and competencies.

- Advanced clinical assessment, diagnostic, and treatment skills for musculoskeletal conditions.
- Strong decision-making abilities and clinical judgement.
- Proficient in using electronic health record systems for documentation and care coordination.

Knowledge.

- In-depth understanding of musculoskeletal disorders, evidence-based treatment approaches, and current best practices in physiotherapy.
- Comprehensive knowledge of NHS policies, clinical guidelines, and the regulatory frameworks governing physiotherapy practice.
- Awareness of public health issues and strategies for managing chronic conditions and improving patient outcomes.

Personal attributes.

- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to build rapport with patients and work effectively within a multidisciplinary team.
- Commitment to patient-centred care and professional integrity.
- Ability to work autonomously and adapt to a variety of clinical settings and patient needs.
- Enthusiastic about advancing physiotherapy practice and contributing to healthcare innovation.

Why join us?

- Impact.
Make a real difference in the health and well-being of communities.
- Growth.
Opportunities for professional development and career progression.
- Flexibility.
Various work arrangements available to suit your lifestyle.
- Team spirit.
Join a supportive and dynamic team dedicated to high-quality patient care.

Special requirements.

- Flexible working hours.
Willingness to work flexible hours, including evenings or weekends, to meet patient needs.
- Driving requirements.
A full driving licence and access to a vehicle may be necessary for conducting home visits or travelling between practice sites.

Application process.

If you are passionate about leading the way in musculoskeletal care and eager to make a tangible difference in patient lives, we invite you to apply. Submit your application through our website to join a forward-thinking team dedicated to excellence in physiotherapy and patient care. This role offers a unique opportunity to enhance your career and contribute to the evolution of primary healthcare services across the UK.