

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**TITLE of POST: Substance Misuse Nurse**

**HOURS: Part time / 24 hours per week**

**REPORTS TO: Service Manager**

The post-holder will be required to function as a senior clinician and take responsibility to coordinate care that has a strong emphasis on ‘social inclusion’, recovery and engagement in both inpatient and community drug services. Clinically there will be an expectation for the post holder to work with individuals who have mental illness and a comorbid substance misuse diagnosis.

As a Substance Misuse Nurse, you will play a crucial role in providing specialized care and support to mental health inpatients with substance misuse issues. Your expertise in substance misuse management and commitment to improving the health and well-being of patients will contribute to the positive outcomes achieved in Cygnet Lodge Lewisham.

**The post holder will**:

• Conduct comprehensive assessments of patients with substance misuse issues, considering their individual needs and risks.

• Develop and implement individualized care plans, collaborating with the multidisciplinary team to provide evidence-based interventions.

• Offer counseling and support to patients with substance misuse challenges, fostering a compassionate and non-judgmental environment.

• Facilitate therapeutic groups and activities aimed at promoting recovery and harm reduction.

• Monitor and document patients’ progress in substance misuse treatment, documenting their response to interventions.

• Collaborate with external agencies to ensure coordinated care for patients with substance misuse issues.

• Maintain accurate and confidential records, adhering to data protection and confidentiality policies.

• Comply with all relevant policies, procedures, and guidelines as stipulated by Cygnet Health Care.

• Participate in training and continuous professional development to enhance knowledge and skills in substance misuse management.

• Lead on care planning and risk assessing, one-to-one and group work facilitation and providing drug, alcohol and holistic health education to patients and colleagues.

**Requirements:**

• Registered Nurse with valid registration and a minimum of 1 years of experience in substance misuse nursing or a related field.

• Additional qualification or training in substance misuse management or addiction nursing (desirable).

• Sound knowledge of substance misuse conditions and evidence-based interventions.

• Ability to work effectively in a challenging and secure environment.

• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to build rapport with patients and colleagues.

• Strong assessment and decision-making abilities, particularly in complex substance misuse situations.

• Flexibility to adapt to the dynamic nature of the prison environment and changing patient needs.

**CYGNET HEALTH CARE   
PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**Hospital:** CYGNET HOSPITAL **Job Title:** Substance Misuse Nurse

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| **ATTRIBUTES** | **ESSENTIAL** | **DESIRABLE** | **HOW ASSESSED** |
| **QUALIFICATIONS** | R.M.N. / R.G.N or equivalent | Mentor Preparation Course/ENB 998 or equivalent  Evidence of post qualification personal and practice development | Application form  Production of valid  certificates |
| **EDUCATION/TRAINING** | Evidence of Continuous Professional Development  Evidence of recent practice.  Safeguarding Adults and Children Awareness Training | Experience with working with patients detained under the MHA 1983 (Amended 2007)  Experience leading both 1:1 and group therapies | Application form  References  Interview |
| **KNOWLEDGE/EXPERIENCE** | Knowledge and experience in working with patients detained under the MHA 1983 (Amended 2007)  Ability to assess, deliver and evaluate quality care  Ability to work within company policies and NMC code of | Experience working with service users with substance misuse diagnosis | Application form  Interview/Assessment  References |

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|  | conduct |  |  |
|  | Ability to demonstrate team working. |  |  |
|  | Ability to work collaboratively with service users and their family/carers to communicate effectively and negotiate best outcomes. |  |  |
|  | Ability to participate in multi­disciplinary meetings. |  |  |
|  | Ability to deal sensitively with difficult situations and to manage conflict when it arises. |  |  |
|  | Ability to safely manage service users with common physical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, etc |  |  |
| **PRACTICAL AND INTELLECTUAL** | Experience of de-escalation | Experience of using Cygnet | Interview/Assessment |
| **SKILLS** | with service users | Health Care’s electronic systems |  |
|  |  |  | References |
|  | Ability to be confident and assertive | Experience of writing reports |  |
|  | Good IT skills |  |  |
|  | Good written and verbal communication skills. Able to communicate with all stakeholders showing ability to share information where there |  |  |

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|  | could be barriers to understanding.  Experience of problem solving and decision making skills  Professional phone manner  Able to plan and organise a shift and lead a team of junior nurses and healthcare support workers |  |  |
| **ANALYTICAL AND JUDGEMENT**  **SKILLS** | Ability to use clinical nursing assessment skills to make decisions on the ward.  Able to develop relationships with other members of the MDT |  | Interview |
| **TRAINING AND EDUCATION** | Willingness to work towards professional and performance objectives (through appraisal and objective setting) |  | Application form  Interview  Reference |
| **CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSONAL** | Demonstrate evidence of Cygnet Health Care Values  An ability to fulfil all contractual requirements with 24 hour rotational shift pattern | Clean Driving License | Occupational Health  Interview  References  DBS Enhanced checking including appropriate ISA |

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|  | To participate In an  occupational Health |  | Barred List |
|  | Be deemed as medically fit for the role |  |  |
|  | Must undertake and pass full |  |  |
|  | PMVA training course |  |  |
|  | To be punctual, flexible and reliable, |  |  |

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