

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB DETAILS

Job Title:	Radiotherapy Physics Practitioner – Band 6
Department / Ward:	Christie Medical Physics and Engineering
Division:	Network Services
Base:	The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

ORGANISATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Accountable to:

1. The Director of Christie Medical Physics and Engineering via the Radiotherapy Physics Group Leader
2. Head of Treatment Planning (TP) via TP practitioner lead

Other Accountabilities:

1. Radiotherapy Radiographers
2. Clinical Scientists and Dosimetrists
3. Clinical Oncologists
4. Other staff groups.

JOB PURPOSE

The post holder carries out a Specialist Practitioner role in Radiotherapy Physics with the production of highly complex treatment plans, patient specific quality assurance and treatment machine QC. The post holder performs a range of radiotherapy physics duties in compliance with the radiotherapy Quality System. Staff at this level will contribute to the maintenance of local quality assurance systems.

The post holder will be responsible for the mentoring, development and training of radiotherapy physics staff.



DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

General

- 1.1. The place of work is normally The Christie, Withington, but the post holder may be required to carry out work at other local hospitals with a radiotherapy service.
- 1.2. The post holder will have the opportunity to work remotely from home (subject to approval by their line manager), following their initial training period. A minimum of 50% of their contracted hours will be completed on site.
- 1.3. Hours are worked flexibly between 7:00 and 21:00, Monday to Saturday, to cover the normal range of clinical duties.
- 1.4. Ensure all work complies with current UK legislation for work with ionizing radiation (IRR 1999, IRMER 2017) and the Trust's ISO 9001:2008-compliant Quality Management System for the provision of radiotherapy.
- 1.5. The post holder will be expected to prioritise and manage their own work on a day-to-day basis. Promote best practice and raise standards within a multi-disciplinary group and participate in continuing professional development.
- 1.6. The post holder must be and must remain registered as a Therapy Radiographer with the health professions council or be on the register of clinical technologists and undertake regular continuing professional development.
- 1.7. Participate in clinical audit.

Clinical Treatment Planning

- 2.1. Assess the suitability of patient imaging, immobilization and localisation information in preparation for treatment planning.
- 2.2. Produce highly complex radiotherapy treatment plans, based on the evaluation of anatomical and clinical information using a highly complex three-dimensional treatment planning system.
- 2.3. Critically analyse and independently check routine and highly complex treatment plans for transfer to linear accelerators.
- 2.4. Provide and independently check monitor unit calculations for external beam radiotherapy.
- 2.5. Evaluate and approve pre-treatment verification details of final plans.
- 2.6. Transfer patient data to simulators and treatment machines.



- 2.7. Identify and report problems with clinical treatment planning systems
- 2.8. Use professional judgement to refer appropriate treatment planning problems to others.
- 2.9. Provide advice to radiotherapy staff on issues relating to the implementation of treatment plans.
- 2.10. Handle internal and external enquiries from other professional groups and patients.
- 2.11. Communicate with patients and relatives during verification and simulation processes
- 2.12. Participate in the implementation of new processes and techniques including the generation of work instructions for inclusion in the quality system.
- 2.13. Participate in clinical audit

Dosimetry and Quality Control

- 3.1. Perform routine radiotherapy plan verification (including measurement and analysis) on linear accelerators and provide specialist training and advice in this discipline to Physicists and Dosimetrists.
- 3.2. The post holder will participate in the clinical quality control programme for highly complex radiotherapy equipment, including linear accelerators, CT scanners and superficial therapy devices to ensure all such equipment is fit for clinical use.
- 3.3. Perform routine morning run-up and output measurements on linear accelerators.
- 3.4. Provide specialist training and advice in this discipline to Physicists, Dosimetrists and therapy Radiographers.
- 3.5. Participate in the departments system for performing in-vivo dosimetry measurements. This will include calibration of dosimeters, analysing in-vivo dosimetry results, investigating measurements that are out of tolerance and maintaining a database of results.

Training and Education

- 4.1. Provide specialist training to radiotherapy and dosimetry students in treatment planning.
- 4.2. Assist with the specialist training of clinical scientists and clinical oncologists in the use of the treatment planning system and treatment planning techniques.



4.3. Disseminate knowledge via lectures, tutorials and other appropriate methods.

Research and Development

5.1. Participate in projects for the review and development of clinical techniques, and for the support of clinical trials within rotational site specialty.

5.2. To interpret national and international guidelines concerning the planning of the treatment sites allocated and to implement protocols to keep practice in line with recommended practice.

5.3. To work with other professionals to provide a co-ordinated service improvements through the development of new techniques.

NOTE

This job description indicates the duties and responsibilities that are appropriate to meet the present needs of the service. Since from time to time these needs may change it is necessary to recognise that the postholder must be willing to undertake other and/or different duties that may, after discussion, be assigned by the Director.

Date Prepared: 13th June 2023
Prepared By: Rhiannon Goldstraw
Agreed By: Phil Whitehurst
Employee's Name and Signature:
Manager's Name and Signature:
Date Reviewed:
Reviewed By:

Date:
Date:



PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: **Radiotherapy Physics Practitioner**

	<u>ESSENTIAL</u>	<u>DESIRABLE</u>	METHOD OF ASSESSMENT
QUALIFICATIONS	Degree or equivalent in Therapy Radiography or physical sciences State registration with HCPC or on voluntary register of Clinical Technologists	Treatment planning course	Certificates Application form
EXPERIENCE	Previous experience as a treatment Radiographer or Dosimetrist Ability to work independently	Experience in treatment planning and/or dosimetry	Application form CPD portfolio Interview References
SKILLS	Computer literate Ability to communicate complex information across professional boundaries. Analytical and reflective skills Ability to prioritise work and function under pressure Sound decision making skills. Highly developed physical accuracy and hand-eye co-ordination.		Interview References
KNOWLEDGE	A sound, practical knowledge of radiotherapy. Proof of adequate CPD.		Interview CPD portfolio
VALUES	A willingness to undertake research and development	Evidence of participation in research	Application form CPD portfolio
OTHER <i>(Please Specify)</i>	Professional Ability to work independently Self-motivated Neat and tidy appearance Flexible attitude to work Punctual Good team worker Conscientious Good general health and fitness	Outside interests Able to attend training courses involving periods away from home	Application form Interview

Prepared By: Rhiannon Goldstraw

Date Prepared: June 2023





The Christie

NHS Foundation Trust

Agreed By: Philip Whitehurst
Manager

Date Agreed: Jan 2020

Reviewed by:

Agreed by: Employee

Date Agreed:

Date Reviewed:



GENERAL STATEMENTS:

RISK MANAGEMENT

It is a standard element of the role and responsibility of all staff of the Trust that they fulfil a proactive role towards the management of risk in all of their actions. This entails the risk assessment of all situations, the taking of appropriate actions and reporting of all incidents, near misses and hazards.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT/DATA PROTECTION

As an employee of the Trust, you have a legal responsibility for all records (including patient health, financial, personal and administrative) that you gather or use as part of your work within the trust. The records may be paper, electronic, microfiche, audio or videotapes, x-ray images. You must consult your manager if you have any doubt as to the correct management of the records with which you work.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

All employees of the Trust have a statutory duty of care for their own personal safety and that of others who may be affected by their acts or omissions. Employees are required to co-operate with management to enable the Trust to meet its own legal duties and to report any circumstances that may compromise the health, safety and welfare of those affected by the Trust undertakings.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND INFORMATION SECURITY

As a Trust employee you are required to uphold the confidentiality of all records held by the trust, whether patient records or trust information. This duty lasts indefinitely and will continue after you leave the trust employment.

All Information which identifies individuals in whatever form (paper/pictures, electronic data/images or voice) is covered by the Data Protection Act 2018 and should be managed in accordance with this legislation.

TRUST POLICIES

The Trust operates a range of policies, e.g. Human Resources, Clinical Practice (available on the Trust intranet). All Trust employees must observe and adhere to the provisions outlined in these policies.



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Christie NHS Foundation Trust is committed to advancing equality, diversity and inclusion for all our patients, other service users and staff. We want to ensure that everyone who works at the Christie or uses our services is welcomed, valued and treated with dignity and respect.

It is your responsibility to understand and work in line with the Trust's equality, diversity, inclusion and human rights policies. You should value others and treat everyone you come into contact with at work with fairness, dignity and respect at all times and uphold their human and other rights.

INFECTION CONTROL

Healthcare workers have an overriding duty of care to patients and are expected to comply fully with the best practice standards. You have a responsibility to comply with Trust policies for personal and patient safety and for prevention of healthcare-associated infection (HCAI); this includes a requirement for rigorous and consistent compliance with Trust policies for hand hygiene, use of personal protective equipment and safe disposal of sharps. Knowledge, skills and behaviour in the workplace should reflect this; at annual appraisal you will be asked about application of practice measures known to be effective in reducing HCAI

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

All employees of the Trust have a responsibility to ensure they have an awareness of environmental sustainability issues which affect the Trust and to contribute to the achievement of the reduction of the Trust's environmental and energy performance footprint e.g. (but not limited to) the use of energy consumed in workspaces (heat/light/paper consumed) and to recycle consumable products wherever possible using appropriate facilities.

FLU VACCINATION

All Trust staff must take part in the Trust's annual flu vaccination programme and ensure they receive the influenza vaccination on an annual basis.

