

Public Health Nurse

Position Summary:

The Public Health Nurse is responsible for promoting the health of the population and preventing communicable diseases. This position provides professional public health nursing services in clinics, homes, and communities related to immunizations, sexual health (including HIV), and Tuberculosis. This is a clinical position.

Essential Duties:

Provides clinical care, health education, and counseling with cultural humility in clinics, homes, and communities.

- Provides patient care.
 - Takes vital signs of patient clinic visits.
 - Performs oral mucosal, "OraSure," and HIV testing in accordance with universal precautions.
 - Tests, treats, and provides follow-up with STI clients.
 - Administers immunizations.
 - Conducts TB testing.
 - Follows all Standing Operation Procedures clinical programs.
- Provides referrals to other local departments and/or social service agencies for needed services.
- Provides education and counseling to individuals, families, and community groups that are adapted to unique needs, lifestyle, cultural, and socio-economic situations.
 - Provides health education for prenatal women, mothers of infants and children, TB patients, HIV/STI clients, and clients with elevated lead levels.
 - Provides health education and materials at the request of residents or clients and provides on-site education to health and health-related groups.
 - Participates in special educational outreach projects such as health fairs and lead screenings.
- Accurately documents each interaction/visit with clients or of the inability to conduct a home, clinic, or phone visit.
 - Documents all services provided, as appropriate for the program and service provided.
 - Documents all drugs and vaccines administered.
 - Maintains confidentiality of all client records in accordance with Act 148, other relevant documented department policies and HIPAA requirements.
- Participates in periodic chart reviews.
- Attends continuing education programs.
- Attends epidemiology team meetings related to outbreaks.
- Serves as preceptor for graduate and undergraduate university students.
- Performs related work as required.

The above statements reflect the general duties considered necessary to describe the principal functions of the job and shall not be considered as a detailed description of all the work requirements that may be inherent in the job.

Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals:

The Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals contain 56 competency statements that apply across the public health workforce for all those engaged in the practice of public health. All of the Core Competencies are

vital for the effective provision of public health activities. While the person in this position may be called on to demonstrate other Core Competencies, below is a list of the most essential for this position.

- 3.2 Communicates with internal and external audiences.
- 3.3 Responds to information, misinformation, and disinformation.
- 4.1 Applies principles of ethics, diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice
- 4.3 Recognizes the diversity of individuals and populations.
- 4.4 Reduces systemic and structural barriers that perpetuate health inequities.
- 4.5 Implements organizational policies, programs, and services to achieve health equity and social and environmental justice.
- 5.4 Collaborates with community members and organizations.
- 6.2. Applies public health sciences in delivering the 10 Essential Public Health Services.
- 6.3. Uses evidence in developing, implementing, evaluating, and improving policies, programs, and services.
- 6.4. Contributes to the evidence base for improving health.
- 7.13. Engages in performance management.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN).
- Licensed as a Registered Nurse (RN), issued by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.
- One year of clinical experience in a medical care program which involved direct patient care such as taking vital signs, performing venipuncture, obtaining specimens, performing laboratory tests, and operating diagnostic equipment.
- 5 of years community health care or public health experience.
- Current CPR/First Aid certification.
- Pediatric experience a plus.
- Bilingual (English/Spanish) ability a plus.

Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

- Knowledge of infectious diseases, including STIs and their treatment.
- Knowledge of general medical, adolescent, and pediatric diseases and conditions.
- Knowledge of laws and regulations governing nursing practices.
- Knowledge of theories, principles, and practices of nursing and their application in community health and clinic service settings.
- Knowledge of medical terminology and appropriate abbreviations.
- MS Office, databases, and on-line data management platforms skills.
- Verbal and written communication skills.
- Customer service skills.
- Organizational skills.
- Ability to prepare and maintain good nursing records and reports.
- Ability to work as a member of a team.
- Ability to interact appropriately and effectively with a wide range of people.
- Ability to maintain and handle confidential information.
- Ability to follow protocol, procedures, and established guidelines.
- Ability to adapt to changing circumstances and needs.
- Ability to manage a demanding and changing workload.
- Demonstrated strong work ethic.

Physical Demands:

- Alternating between standing and sitting.
- Fine motor manipulation.
- Gross motor manipulation.
- Hearing.
- Keyboarding.
- Near visual acuity.
- Peripheral visual acuity.
- Reaching overhead or below.
- Sitting.
- Speaking.
- Walking or standing.

The Health Department is an equal opportunity employer.

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