

JOB DESCRIPTION – Physician Assistant

Summary: The Physician Assistant is responsible for assessing and managing the medical care needs of patients in Primary and Urgent Care. Additionally, the PA performs physical examinations and minor surgical and therapeutic procedures; interprets laboratory and other diagnostic tests; and makes routine diagnosis of injury or illness and arranges consultation as required. The PA is responsible for performing basic screening, diagnostic treatment and rehabilitative and supportive services as a member of a primary health care team.

Reports To: Medical Director

Location: Gualala Medical

Exemption: Exempt

All RCMS employees are required to function within RCMS policies and procedures, meet the standards outlined in the employee handbook, and adhere to the code of conduct and the RCMS Mission Statement.

Employees are required to monitor their email and phone voice mail messages daily, and respond to all internal and external communications in an appropriate and timely manner.

RCMS employees are expected to represent RMCS in a professional, positive manner to the community at large, and are encouraged to participate in RCMS fundraising events.

ESSENTIAL JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

- Independently takes and reviews complete medical histories; performs appropriate physical examinations, makes an assessment of the patient and records pertinent data.
- Provides urgent medical patient care under an established set of protocols.
- Uses prudent judgement when emergencies require action beyond established protocols.
- Directs Primary and Urgent Care support staff when performing medical procedures.
- Orders, interprets and sometimes performs laboratory, radiology and other screening/diagnostic procedures.
- Performs routine therapeutic procedures, to include but not limited to injections; IV/IO starts; fluid and medication infusions; immunizations; care of wounds/lacerations/bites/punctures/fractures/dislocations; management of trauma, cardiac and other emergencies; and all duties within the scope of PA training and certification.
- Instructs and counsels patients regarding matters pertaining to their physical and mental health.

- Refers patients to the appropriate health facilities, agencies and other resources in the community. Stabilizes patients for transfer to higher level of care, when appropriate. Collaborates with local EMS providers when requested and appropriate.
- Orders, prescribes, administers and dispenses medications.
- Contributes to physician's effectiveness by identifying short-term and long-range patient care issues that must be addressed; providing information and commentary pertinent to deliberations; recommending options and courses of action; implementing physician directives.
- Provides leadership and -- when necessary -- training to MA, LVN, RN support staff and visiting students and medical residents.
- Regular, reliable attendance is expected.

OTHER ASSIGNED DUTIES

- Provides continuity of care by developing and implementing patient management plans.
- Maintains safe and clean working environment by complying with procedures, rules, and regulations.
- Protects patients and employees by adhering to infection-control policies and protocols.
- Maintains professional and technical knowledge by attending educational workshops; reviewing professional publications; establishing personal networks; participating in professional societies.
- Develops health care team staff by providing information, education opportunities, and experiential growth opportunities.
- Additional duties as assigned.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Possess a California State license issued by Physician Assistant Examining Committee
- Satisfactory completion of a formal Physician Assistant Training Program at an accredited educational institution, including a minimum of three months preceptorship.
- Possess DEA prescriptive authority
- Previous emergency/urgent care experience which includes the ability to manage adult and pediatric patients.
- Know laws and regulations governing mid-level providers.
- Possess a valid state driver's license.
- Maintain current BLS, ACLS and PALS certification.
- Know principles and practices of diagnosis and treatment of common medical problems.
- Maintain knowledge of medications, their desired effects, side effects and their effects and complications.
- Maintain knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the human body and stages of child growth and development.
- Maintain knowledge of sterile techniques, infection control and quality assurance.
- Assist physicians through competent performance of the required duties.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintains cooperative working relationships with all those contacts in the course of work.
- Perform thorough physical examination and prepare a complete medical history.
- Exercise accurate independent judgment and take action(s) that is/are appropriate and effective.