

Job Title	Senior Respiratory Physiologist
Band	6
Hours	37.5 per week
Department	Respiratory Physiology, Respiratory Medicine
Report to:	Lead Respiratory Physiologist
Accountable to:	Acute Care Matron, Consultant Thoracic Physicians

JOB SUMMARY

To supervise the respiratory physiology department in the diagnostic assessment, initiation of treatment and monitoring of patients in the respiratory and sleep service.

To train departmental staff to perform the basic respiratory physiological measurements in accordance with ARTP/BTS National Guidelines and local standards.

To mentor and assist in the development and training of physiology staff members.

The instruction of student nurses and doctors, trainee physiotherapists and pharmacists, junior doctors, staff nurses, GPs and practice nurses in various aspects of physiology.

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

To supervise the physiology team in the daily running of the service involving:

Perform diagnostic tests to nationally recognised standards for accuracy and quality.

To carry out the following investigations:

1. Spirometry (measurement of dynamic flows and volumes)
2. Measurement of static lung volumes by helium dilution technique, nitrogen wash-out and body plethysmography.
3. Gas transfer for Carbon Monoxide by single breath technique
4. Bronchodilator Response Testing
5. Field exercise tests (6 minute walk test; shuttle test; 6 minute step exercise test).
6. Ambulatory oxygen assessment (when required).
7. Measurement of respiratory muscle strength (MIP/MEP; SNIP tests; postural

Spirometry, peak cough flow).

8. To perform hypoxic inhalation tests (fitness to fly).
 9. To perform histamine challenge tests.
 10. To perform earlobe blood gas sampling and analysis.
 11. To perform fraction exhaled Nitric Oxide testing (FeNO)
 12. To perform a range of diagnostic tests in patients who have suspected sleep related breathing disorders.
 13. To perform CPAP Trial set ups for patients with diagnosed sleep disordered breathing
 14. To perform the review of CPAP therapy for patients with diagnosed sleep disordered breathing who are on CPAP treatment.
 15. To perform the initiation and review of therapy for patients receiving NIV treatment.
 16. To provide the mobile respiratory physiology service at the trust spoke sites.
 17. To provide Cardio-Pulmonary Exercise Testing (CPET). This includes investigation of exertional dyspnoea and pre-operative assessment.
 18. To provide Exercise-Induced Bronchoconstriction (EIB) challenge tests for the investigation of exercise induced asthma.
- To ensure that all equipment is maintained in a fully functional state with adherence to appropriate quality and quantitative controls.
 - To record accurately patient information and maintain records and test results. Send outpatient appointments/information to non-respiratory referral patients. Organise requests for inpatients. Ensure test results are sent out to the referring consultant.
 - To ensure that the unit and its activities are carried out in accordance with the Trust policies and protocols on infection control, risk management, data protection, Health and Safety etc.
 - Ensure that adequate stocks of all consumables are kept.
 - To train staff to the highest possible standards and send on external training courses when considered appropriate. Provide training/information for other healthcare employees who request it.
 - Attend courses and conferences to increase knowledge and understanding of all aspects of the job.
 - To develop the Respiratory Physiology Service as and when required.
 - Follow consistently high standards of infection control practice, especially with reference to hand decontamination and, for clinical staff, aseptic technique.

- Be aware of and follow all Trust infection control guidelines and procedures relevant to their work.
- Participate in mandatory training and annual updates

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This job description is not exhaustive and will be subject to periodic review in association with the post holder.

Policies and Procedures

The post is subject to the policies, practices, procedures and conditions of service determined by the Trust.

Confidentiality

Your attention is drawn to the confidential aspects of this post. Any matters of a confidential nature, including information relating to the diagnosis and treatment of patients, individual staff records and details of contract prices and terms must under no circumstances be divulged to any unauthorised person or persons. Breaches of confidence will result in disciplinary action which may result in dismissal.

You should also be aware that regardless of any disciplinary action taken, a breach of confidence could also result in a civil action for damage.

Equality of Opportunity and Diversity

The Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust operates an Equality of Opportunity and Diversity policy. The policy aims to ensure that no job applicant, employee or former employee suffers direct unlawful or unfair discrimination, or is disadvantaged by any conditions or requirements which cannot be justified.

Fire

You are required to comply with the agreed fire procedures, taking the appropriate action if the fire alarm sounds, and to attend relevant training programmes as required.

Health and Safety at Work Act

You are required to take reasonable care for the health and safety of yourself and other persons who may be affected by your acts or omissions at work and to co-operate with the Trust to ensure that statutory and departmental safety regulations are followed.

Medical Questionnaire

The appointment is subject to the completion of a satisfactory medical questionnaire which may involve a medical examination. You may also be required to undergo medical examinations in the future and/or at intervals stipulated by the employing Trust.

Smoking Policy

The Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust has a *Smoke Free* policy. Smoking is not permitted in any of the Trust's properties or in Trust grounds.

Infection Control

The Trust has designated the prevention and control of infection and the full implementation of the Health Act (2006) as a core component in the organisation's clinical governance, managing risk and patient safety programmes. In consequence, all employees are expected to:-

- i) Follow consistently high standards of infection control practice, especially with reference to hand decontamination, adherence to dress/ uniform code, and for clinical staff, aseptic technique
- ii) Be aware of and follow all Trust infection control guidelines and procedures relevant to their work.
- iii) Participate in mandatory training and annual updates.