

Job Title	Assistant Clinical Respiratory Physiologist
Band	4
Hours	37.5 per week
Department:	Pulmonary Function Laboratory, Respiratory Physiology, Respiratory Medicine
Report to:	Lead Respiratory Physiologist
Accountable to:	Senior Respiratory Physiologists, Senior Staff Nurse, Consultant Thoracic Physicians

JOB SUMMARY

To assist in the provision of diagnostic assessment services in Respiratory Physiology and the therapeutic monitoring of patients with lung disease and/or sleep disordered breathing.

To assist in the performance of respiratory physiological measurements in accordance with ARTP/BTS National Guidelines and Departmental Standards.

To assist in the training of technical assistants in the performance of basic respiratory physiological measurements in accordance with ARTP/BTS National Guidelines and Departmental Standards.

The maintenance of equipment, stocks of consumables and to ensure accurate record keeping.

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- To perform diagnostic tests to nationally recognised standards for accuracy and quality.
- To perform the following investigations under the supervision of the Clinical Respiratory Physiologists:
 1. Spirometry (measurement of dynamic flows and volumes)
 2. Measurement of static lung volumes by Helium dilution technique, Nitrogen Washout 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.

7. Measurement of respiratory muscle strength (MIP/MEP; SNIP tests; postural spirometry).
 8. To assist in the performance of hypoxic inhalation tests (fitness to fly).
 9. To assist in the performance of histamine challenge tests.
 10. To assist in the performance of earlobe blood gas sampling and analysis.
 11. To perform diagnostic tests in patients who have suspected sleep related breathing disorders.
 12. To assist in the performance of CPAP Trial set ups for patients with diagnosed Sleep Apnoea.
 13. To assist in the review of CPAP therapy for patients with diagnosed Sleep Apnoea who on CPAP.
 14. To assist in the performance of cardio-pulmonary exercise tests (CPET).
- 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 when required. Organise requests for inpatients. Ensure test results are communicated to the relevant specialities.
 - Deal with telephone enquiries.
 - 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 and Health and Safety.
 - Ensure that adequate stocks of all consumables are kept.
 - To assist in the training of assistants 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.
 - Be aware of and follow all Trust infection control guidelines and procedures relevant to their work.
 - Participate in mandatory training and annual updates.

JS 30.07.21

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.