

Job Title	Theatre Practitioner		
Department	Health and Social Services	Section	Theatre
Reports to	Theatre Manager		
Grade:	Falkland Islands Government Grade – D1	Job Code	207OD1-3
Job purpose			
<p>As part of the multidisciplinary team within the Operating Department the post holder will play a vital role in the day-to-day operation and smooth running of the department.</p> <p>They will provide skilled assistance to clinicians during the induction and maintenance of anaesthesia and undertake both scrubbing and circulating duties within a wide range of surgical specialities.</p> <p>They will be involved in the outpatient surgical clinics, assisting both the anaesthetist/surgeon in the pre-operative phase of the patient pathway ensuring all relevant paperwork and investigations are carried out before surgery.</p>			
Additional information			
<p>The clinical care provided at the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital (KEMH) is largely modelled on the UK NHS, adapted where necessary to local circumstances.</p> <p>The KEMH contains a single 24 bed ward, which includes two intensive-care beds and one maternity bed. As the only hospital in the Islands, it is responsible for the management of all presenting patients, regardless of their age or condition. The Theatre Department currently consists of a General Surgeon, Anaesthetist, four Theatre Practitioners (one of which is Theatre Manager), Decontamination Supervisor and is supported by circulating nurses as necessary.</p> <p>As the theatre team is a small one there is a 1 in 2 on-call commitment for theatre practitioners. This can be a week on/ week off call and is from 1600 hrs weekdays and 24hrs at weekends. Staff may request to take time off in lieu as an alternative to payment for any period of work done while on-call. This will be at the theatre manager's discretion. You are not required to be in the hospital during on-call hours but be available to attend at short notice if required.</p> <p>There is a pronounced seasonal variation in the theatre caseload, as visiting consultant visits are concentrated in the November to March period; many of these visits e.g. orthopaedics, ENT, gynae, ophthalmology, involve a theatre caseload.</p> <p>In emergencies in which the presenting condition exceeds the capability or capacity of local resources, the theatre team may be involved in providing initial treatment or stabilisation prior to the transfer of the patient to a tertiary centre in South America by either the Royal Air Force (RAF) or private air ambulance. The RAF are only used in the most time-critical emergencies, typically a very small number of times a year. In the event we use the RAF, the KEMH must provide the medical team, and there may be a requirement for a theatre practitioner(s) to accompany patients who may or may not be ventilated. Such transfers involved a multi-disciplinary team, led by a doctor. Training is provided in the use of the transport incubator and other transport equipment, and the post holder would only be expected to participate in such transfers when assessed as competent to do so.</p>			

Main Accountabilities

- ❖ Working in all areas of the patient pathway including supporting the outpatient clinics, undertaking pre-operative assessments, providing initial recovery and continuing the care of the patient in follow up care, and ensuring that onward referral and follow up is made effectively;
- ❖ Participate in and comply with all patient safety requirements, including attending the morning briefing, adhering to the WHO check list, adhering to recognised best practices, local policies and guidelines.
- ❖ Have a good understanding of a wide range of surgical specialties in order to assist with facilitating our program of visiting specialists;
- ❖ Provide assistance to visiting gastroenterologists, assisting with sedation and monitoring of patients undergoing endoscopy. Liaise with CSSD to ensure all relevant equipment is available;
- ❖ Gain experience in the decontamination process to streamline the turnaround of instrumentation;
- ❖ Provide interventions and treatment to patients who have suffered major trauma or collapse and are admitted to intensive care;
- ❖ A willingness and ability to provide surgical and anaesthetic assistance for maternity cases which may include insertion of epidurals and obstetric emergencies including category 1 caesarean sections;
- ❖ Participate in preparing patients for medical evacuation by air ambulance, and in the event the RAF are used to facilitate such an evacuation, when trained and competent to do so, accompany the patient and provide skilled care as part of multi-disciplinary team during the transfer- *see additional information*;
- ❖ There may be a requirement to provide surgical assistance – camera manipulation, assisting in retraction, assisting in haemostasis including use of suction & indirect diathermy, assisting in the cutting of sutures, assisting in the manipulation of the uterus during laparoscopic surgery & the application of dressings;
- ❖ Maintain excellent communications and professional relationships with all Health and Social Services staff and all other agencies that link with the theatre team in order to maintain and promote the optimal care of patients;
- ❖ Maintain own professional development, skill sets and competencies in order to maintain registration with the appropriate governing body and to act as a role model to other healthcare staff;
- ❖ Support the theatre manager with team briefings, stock control, and ensuring safe patient flow through the department.
- ❖ Provide care to patients in additional areas when required such as casualty, minor injuries and fracture clinics, including providing support for difficult to access phlebotomy and cannulation, recall and screening programs;

This job description broadly reflects the current duties. It is not necessarily exhaustive, and changes will be made at the manager's discretion with the post holder.

Criminal Records Checks (this post is regarded as sensitive)

All applicants for Government posts will be asked to disclose convictions upon application. Criminal records will only be considered for recruitment purposes when the conviction record is relevant. Having an 'unspent' conviction will not necessarily bar a candidate from employment. This will depend on the circumstances and background to the offence(s).

Any information given will be completely treated as confidential and will be considered only in relation to the post to which the application refers.

Failure by a candidate to reveal information that is directly relevant to the post applied for could lead to the withdrawal of an offer of employment.

Person Specification	Theatre Practitioner		
	Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Education and Qualifications			
1st level degree, or equivalent, in a relevant subject enabling current registration with HCPC/ NMC or equivalent regulatory body	✓		A
Evidence of continuing professional development meeting revalidation requirements	✓		A
Valid driving licence	✓		A
Infection control or decontamination qualification		✓	A
Other relevant postgraduate qualification		✓	A
Knowledge, Skills & Experience			
5 years' experience as Theatre Practitioner in a wide range of operating theatre environments which align with the diverse operational requirements of the KEMH.	✓		A/I/R
Able to provide effective patient care throughout the patient pathway from first referral to discharge from the caseload of the surgeon	✓		I/R
Able to prioritise and support and organise the surgical workload within the resources available	✓		I/R
Articulate and knowledgeable in current issues and practice relating to operating theatres	✓		A/I
Clear concise and articulate, able to inspire confidence and maintain excellent relationships with all health and social services colleagues, as well as other agencies	✓		A/I/R
Able to effectively use electronic patient record systems and keep accurate, contemporaneous records in both paper and electronic form, as required.	✓		I/R
Knowledge, Skills & Experience continued			
Evidence of fluency in the English language	✓		A/I
Good computer literacy, including in the use of use of common Microsoft Office programmes such as Outlook, Excel and Word.	✓		A/I/R
Excellent organisational skills to organise the work load, identifying and responding to the needs of the department and other nursing areas looking at the wider picture beyond the shift and the department.	✓		I/R
Evidence of working effectively with a multi-disciplinary team to promote the best possible outcomes, and act as a patient advocate.	✓		A/I/R
Willing to participate in managing patients (including ventilated patients) during an overseas transfer via air ambulance when training in equipment has been given and competency insured.	✓		A/I

Person Specification	Theatre Practitioner		
Criteria	Essential	Desirable	Assessment Method
Personal Attributes			
Takes initiative and strives for improvement within the resources available, has a 'can-do' attitude and positively inspires this in others	✓		I/R
Sensitive and empathetic to the spoken and unspoken needs of patients, families and colleagues	✓		I/R
Calm, even tempered, friendly and resilient who works to achieve the best for the patients	✓		I/R
Treats patients with dignity and respect balancing confidentiality with good team working, record keeping and safeguarding	✓		I/R
Able to work within, and contribute to, the team and the wider Health Service.	✓		I/R
Ability to challenge and raise concerns constructively when things don't go to plan, as part of an open and safe culture of learning.	✓		I/R
Willing to work to ensure 'job' is completed	✓		I/R
Willing to work in other areas of the Health Service as needs arise	✓		I
Ability to project a confident and professional attitude, yet at the same time be approachable and personable	✓		I/R
Ability to work effectively for long shifts when operationally required, and at unsocial hours when required during on-call rota.	✓		I/R
Aligns with FIGs Core Values – Diverse, Professional, Resilient & Resourceful.	✓		I/R

Note to Applicants: Please ensure that you demonstrate your ability to meet the requirements of the job in your application form by giving clear, concise examples of how you meet each criterion.

Method of Assessment: A – Application Form I – Selection Interview R – Reference