Patient Safety Partner Role Description

Role Title: Patient Safety Partner

Reports to: Patient Safety Specialist

Role location: Spencer House

We are committed to offering safe services and we need your help! The Patient Safety Partner (PSP) is a new and evolving role developed by NHS England to help improve patient safety across health care in the UK. PSPs can be patients, service users, carers, family members or other lay people (including NHS staff from another organisation).

Main purpose of role

PSPs work alongside our staff, patients, service users and families to influence and improve safety within our services.

PSPs regularly attend committee meetings to help monitor patient safety compliance, to discuss and review safety issues, and to provide appropriate challenge to ensure learning and improvements take place with regards to patient safety. The PSP may also be involved in the development and implementation of patient safety strategy and policy and in the investigation of patient safety events.

The PSP ensures that the perspectives of patients, carers and families is prioritised and they champion a diversity of views.

The PSP will need to comply with relevant policies and maintain strict confidentiality in respect to discussions and information when required.

Skills and experience

- Understanding of and broad interest in patient safety
- Ability to communicate well in writing and read comprehensive reports
- Ability to understand and evaluate a range of information and evidence
- Confidence to communicate well verbally with senior leaders about strategic issues, as an advocate for patient safety.

- Ability to provide a patient, carer or lay perspective and put forward views on behalf of the wider community/groups of patients (not only your own views).
- Experience of championing health improvements; able to be a critical friend
- Interaction with multiple stakeholders at senior management level
- Experience of working in partnership with healthcare organisations or programmes
- Sound judgement and the ability to be objective
- Personal integrity and commitment to openness, inclusiveness and high standards

Time commitment

We are looking for 8 to 10 hours per month. However, this is negotiable depending on your circumstances and will be discussed and agreed on an individual basis.

Training and support

Training is provided for PSPs and support to be compliant with all modules will be provided. This includes Levels 1 and 2 of the National Patient Safety Syllabus (NHS England) and training on data protection, equality and diversity, and safeguarding. We will also ask you to adhere to the principles of the PSP agreement.

We will provide ongoing support to you in your role and ensure you are provided with the tools and advice you need. You will be managed by, and work alongside the Patient Safety Specialist for the Trust and have regular one-to-one sessions with them. You will be part of a team of PSPs and may be asked to attend PSP support meetings, networks and training events to receive peer support and share learning. You may also be asked to support and guide any new PSPs where required.

Equality and diversity

We ask that all PSPs take into consideration individual patients' needs as well as cultural and religious requirements. All PSPs will act in accordance with Bridgewater's policy and procedures.

Health and Safety

As part of your role, we would ask that you report any safety incidents or concerns to staff; this includes any environmental factors that may contravene health and safety requirements. We also ask that you attend Trust Induction and regular training and ensure that all work is carried out in line with Bridgewater's policies and procedures.