

Complementary Therapist Role Description and Skills Profile

Role title: Complementary Therapist

Why do you need my support?

FORCE Cancer Support Centre provide a comprehensive range of non-clinical support to people diagnosed with cancer. We have two complementary therapy rooms to offer patients and their carers therapies to help them to cope with the effects of a cancer diagnosis and side effects of treatment for cancer. We are interested in hearing from qualified and experienced complementary therapists who would enjoy volunteering and contributing to our established, valued and much needed service.

What are the aims of the service?

To provide a range of complementary therapies e.g. Reiki, Indian head massage, Aromatherapy, Massage or Reflexology to patients and carers affected by a cancer diagnosis.

What activities will/could I be involved in?

Typical activities include:

- Preparing the treatment room for use with each client
- Carrying out a full consultation prior to treatment
- Adapting treatment plan according to clients' needs
- Providing information to clients regarding the therapy
- Providing the appropriate complementary therapy
- Accurately recording the details in the clients notes
- Participate in regular meetings and reflective practice to ensure good practice and peer support
- Ensure therapy room is cleaned after each session

Are there any activities I will *not* be expected to do?

There are certain activities that volunteers are not required or insured to carry out. These include:

- Lifting of any heavy objects
- Administering medication of any kind including eye drops
- Handling hazardous materials

What time commitment is required from me?

Regular weekly or fortnightly commitment - Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday between 9.30am - 4pm – however session times can be flexible

Where are we based?

- Based at our main Exeter Centre

What skills and abilities will I need to have?

- Qualified in at least 2 of the Complementary Therapies FORCE provides
- Ability to communicate clearly and listen effectively

- Warm adaptable and caring approach
- Polite, courteous and patient
- Reliable, honest and punctual
- Be able to work within personal and organisational boundaries
- Ability to be respectful of other's differences and choices
- Ability to maintain confidentiality
- An interest in cancer care and the services that the Charity provide

What training, support and guidance will there be?

- Mandatory core skills training is provided
- Local training and induction will be given by the department
- Policies and procedures will be provided and explained
- Regular meetings, reflective practice and team training

How might I benefit from this experience?

The benefits this role offers include:

- The satisfaction of helping people affected by a cancer diagnosis cope with the changes to their lives
- Achieving work life balance and being able to use your skills to 'give something back'
- Developing existing skills and learning new ones
- Sharing your own skills and experience to help others in the Team
- Gaining experience of providing and adapting treatments for people with a cancer diagnosis
- Meeting new people and being part of a highly valued Team

What are the benefits to people who are supported by the charity?

- You will directly help to improve the lives of people affected by cancer by enabling them to access the support they need when they need it

Will my expenses be paid?

- We offer to pay volunteers expenses within agreed guidelines

What else should I know?

- If you have personal experience of cancer, we will envisage you being 18 months post diagnosis
- This role is subject to an enhanced Disclosure Barring Service check
- All volunteer applications will need to be supported by two suitable references
- The volunteer role will be agreed with you following successful completion of induction training
- There will be a three-month trial period for the role
- All therapists must always adhere to the confidentiality policy (Information Governance) and Health & Safety
- All therapists must always comply with their role description and wear their ID badge
- You must have an active membership to a Professional Body and Public Indemnity Insurance relating to your therapies

What's the next step?

- To find out more please contact:
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