

Service Criteria

Therapies Community Team (Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy)

This document is to clarify the rationale for patient referral to the community service for Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy.

Who does this service support?

The service supports patients:-

- Who need assessment and management in the community
- And have physical challenges:-
 - That limit their ability to undertake activities of their everyday life
 - That restrict their participation in different aspects of their life
 - That may be impacted by environmental factors

These physical challenges may be linked to:-

- long-term conditions
- for on-going rehabilitation following acute injury, illness or surgery
- progressive & deteriorating conditions, including the palliative stage to facilitate a good death

The aim of the team

The aim of the team is to promote patients' function and ability to be independent, by maximising their ability to undertake activities of everyday life, and increase their participation in life activities.

- Occupational Therapists assess and provide therapeutic interventions for patients with everyday tasks such as washing, dressing, cooking, work and hobbies, and reduce the impact of environmental factors and access issues
- Physiotherapists assess and provide therapeutic rehabilitation interventions for patients with movement and mobility to optimise independence and increase participation

Patients are accepted into the service from a variety of sources, including:-

- Doctors - GP's and consultant clinics within Health & Community Services
- Care homes, residential homes and care agencies
- Other health professionals – nurses, therapists, psychologists, paramedics
- Other colleagues in community services – social workers, Family Nursing & Home Care
- Housing trusts
- Carers, family and self-referrals
- Continuation of therapy episodes of care from other therapy teams within HCS, including acute wards at Jersey General Hospital, transition from Paediatric Services, and following discharge home /community setting from UK hospitals

Patients should not be referred to the service if a doctor's assessment is required

- If patients are acutely unwell or have deteriorated quickly, they should either be reviewed by their GP, or attend the ED Department if it is an accident or an emergency.

What do the team provide?

The team provide specialised assessments, advice and rehabilitation plans to support patients' physical health, functional activity and participation, and will work with patients to agree specific therapy goals and a rehabilitation plan.

The team focusses on maximising patients' physical functional ability and safety with every day activities and this can involve:-

- Physical Rehabilitation and treatment plans
- Home exercises for the patient to do independently, or with their carers, to progress their function
- Community group exercises
- Equipment provision e.g. walking aids, commodes, bathroom aids
- Prescription for adaptation of the home environment e.g. grab rails, bathroom adaptation
- Provision of wheelchairs, including powered and complex seating solutions

Which specialist services are provided by the team?

Following medical diagnosis of long term conditions and associated medical management, the team provide a variety of specialist therapy services as an integral part of the long-term condition management. These include:-

- Falls and Frailty
- Neurological conditions
- Respiratory therapy and Breathlessness, and Cardiac rehabilitation
- Amputee patients that are appropriate for prosthesis/prostheses
- Custom-made splinting

The team also provide specialist services to support:-

- Complex physical disabilities
- Moving and handling assessments for clients in their homes with complex physical needs
- Provision of wheelchairs for patients with short or long term mobility and/or postural seating needs

This community element of the Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy service does not provide:-

- Assessment to prevent hospital admission or facilitate hospital discharge (remit of RRRT)
- Assessment for clients recently discharged from the team, unless the condition has changed
- Services for clients that do not wish to engage with Occupational Therapy or Physiotherapy services
- Moving and handling assessments, unless there are complex physical needs
- Wheelchair assessments for social activities
- Wheelchairs for patients in care homes, unless there is a complex need
- Care for clients under the care of the Hospice when goals are focussed solely on care

- Assessment for scooters and privately purchased wheelchairs (including powered)
- Assessment and provision for pressure cushion (remit of FNHC)
- Ongoing maintenance therapy for individuals with long term conditions
- Maintenance therapy for those in respite
- Patients requiring acute assessment or management within ED and emergency admission to hospital
- Assessment for patients whose prime difficulties relate to mental health conditions (remit of OT colleagues in Mental Health Services)
- Assessment for patients requiring referral to Musculoskeletal Out-patient Physiotherapy services within the Physiotherapy Department
- Assessment for patients requiring referral to Pelvic, Obstetric & Gynaecological Out-Patient Physiotherapy services within the Physiotherapy Department
- Assessment for patients requiring referral to the Physiotherapy-led Spinal Assessment Service within the Pain Clinic

Contact Details

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