

# **PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE II CLINIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

## **GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:**

This position provides clinical and educational public health nursing services for the Clinic in a variety of program areas including Family Planning, Child Health, Adult Health, Sexually Transmitted Disease, Preparedness, Communicable Disease, Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, Wise Woman Program, Refugee Health, Tuberculosis, Immunizations, and Primary Care.

Public Health is a first responder agency for natural disasters (e.g. hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, winter storms), naturally occurring infectious disease outbreaks (e.g. influenza, SARS), technological hazards (hazardous materials releases, critical infrastructure disruptions), and terrorist incidents. This position, like all other positions within the Department may be required to participate in any emergency response activities as deemed necessary by the Health Director or his/her designee. Availability during emergencies and exercises is required. Appropriate ICS courses will be completed as assigned for position.

## **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES PERFORMED:**

- Measures and records vital signs
- Counsels patients regarding appropriate care and prevention for disease and explains doctor's orders and encourages follow-up care as indicated; refers patients to appropriate resources
- Refers patients as appropriate to health department clinic or private M.D. for evaluation and treatment as indicated
- Administers prescribed medication to patients per established protocol; monitors patients on public health medications, observing and teaching patients the signs and symptoms of side effects and adverse reactions
- Administers vaccines and skin tests to clinic patients and in the community (ex: community groups, factory employees, or special screening clinics); interprets skin tests results and refers as necessary;
- Triage clients based on established protocol; acts as team member in follow-up procedures for communicable diseases such as whooping cough, tuberculosis, or hepatitis, as indicated by public health law and agency policies
- Practices Public Health Nursing in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act and policies; properly documents all actions; maintains confidentiality in all matters of patient record
- Requests blood tests according to health department protocol
- Assures program addenda deliverables are met as required
- Assists with patient examinations
- Responsible for making decisions concerning the daily functioning of clinic services such as scheduling sick clients, co-workers assignments, orientation of new employees, and coordination between other programmatic nursing sections; assumes lead role in one or more clinic programs in order to ensure coordination for skilled nursing procedures, patient assessment, and proper documentation and accountability

- Attend and participate in team conferences as appropriate; serves on committees as assigned; participates in community health promotion/education activities.

### **RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:**

Knowledge and skill in the application of nursing theory, practices, principles and techniques employed in the field of public health and related programs. Knowledge of the available resources and organizations and the ability to coordinate these as related to public health. Must have initiative and demonstrate the ability to work with limited supervision. Maintains effective working relationship with others.

### **MINIMUM EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

Graduation from a four-year college or university with a B.S. in Nursing which includes a Public Health Nursing rotation and one year of Public Health Nursing experience; or Master's in Public Health and graduation from a school of professional nursing and one year of professional nursing experience; or graduation from a school of professional nursing and two years of professional nursing experience including one year of Public Health Nursing experience; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

Individuals without a B.S. Degree will be required to complete the "Introduction to Principles and Practices of Public Health Nursing" course within one year of employment.

A current license to practice as a Registered Nurse in North Carolina by the N.C. Board of Nursing.

Current North Carolina Driver's License