



CLASSIFICATION NO. 715
Established: 4/11
FLSA: Exempt
EEO: 2

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REGISTERED NURSE

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

Under direction, to perform complex duties, consultation, and case management to prevent and monitor communicable diseases within the community; to investigate public health outbreaks and conduct research related to communicable diseases; to educate citizens and other health care professionals regarding disease prevention practices and control measures; to monitor and contribute surveillance data to identify emerging public health concerns; and to do other work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Communicable Disease Registered Nurse provides specialized professional nursing expertise related to epidemiological trends and the transmission, treatment, and containment of communicable diseases within the community. Duties require independent judgment, working knowledge of epidemiology that includes current clinical knowledge, treatment requirements, risk factors, infectious disease management, and current nursing techniques and case management related to treatment of public health outbreaks.

The Communicable Disease Registered Nurse differs from Community Health Nurse 2, which provides the full range of general, professional nursing duties under the direction of a clinic/program coordinator or a physician. Assignments and duties are of a general nature offering direct patient treatment and differ from the Communicable Disease RN classification which focuses on epidemiology, surveillance, and specialized communicable disease investigation and prevention and case management treatment responsibilities.

TYPICAL TASKS

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Monitors and provides case management services to individuals with communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, HIV or hepatitis; assesses health status and plans treatment regimens, using established medical protocols and prevention control measures; communicates details of treatment plans with client; coordinates patient care with other health care providers; orders tests and medications, and monitors client response; maintains records related to treatment plan and ensures proper medical regimen is followed and documented.
2. Collects, analyzes and reports communicable disease and epidemiological data; investigates reports of communicable disease and surveys occurrences of reportable disease in individuals and groups, following medical protocols, guidelines, and procedures; develops reports and communicates findings to other medical and professional partners

including recommendations regarding control measures; monitors status of outbreaks; maintains databases and compliance with program standards and legal requirements.

3. Conducts communicable disease, epidemiological, and other related studies under direction and collaboration with the Health Officer and the Communicable Disease Manager; manages data related to communicable disease; collects, compiles and analyzes statistics used to develop epidemiological reports for use by the county and other entities.
4. Acts as a resource and provides consultation and health information to individuals, families, health care providers, community agencies, schools, and other agencies regarding communicable diseases; collaborates with other jurisdictions in program planning, infection control management, coordination, and integration to improve and standardize services.
5. Enforces communicable disease codes in accordance with Health Authority guidelines and in consultation with the Health Officer; identifies and communicates exclusions from public facilities according to state or local guidelines.
6. Coordinates programs under assigned specialty area of public health; participates in health team planning activities; develops and updates policies and procedures related to communicable disease services in conjunction management; participates on internal and external communicable disease related committees; works closely with Health Officer and CD Manager to develop and maintain standing-orders and protocols.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Thorough knowledge of: Principles, methods, and procedures of nursing as applied to health practice; preventative medicine and sanitation; community health aspects of nursing programs including continuity of patient care and nursing services in public health programs; cause, treatment, prevention and/or early detection of communicable diseases.

Working knowledge of: Principles of epidemiology and health related research; disease transmission, risk factors, treatment, and the investigation techniques used to investigate a disease outbreak and data; community resources available for assistance in public health programs; current trends and concepts relative to professional nursing practice related to public health conditions; principles of public health education and adult education principles.

Skill to: Maintain professional communication with a variety of individuals, groups and agencies during stressful situations; communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; provide consultation on complex and sensitive public health issues; work effectively with individuals and families to provide effective treatment of health problems; analyze situations accurately from multiple perspectives and take effective action; plan and conduct research projects; establish and maintain effective working relationships with the general public, and other departments and agencies; communicate effectively including preparation of clear and concise records and reports; provide high quality nursing care; plan and coordinate the activities of other individuals who will provide care; instruct in the prevention of diseases, promotion of health and nursing care of an ill or injured person; analyze and interpret epi information and maintain data systems.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Minimum qualifications are used as a guide for establishing the minimum experience, education, licensure, and/or certifications required for employment in the classification. The following

minimum qualifications are established for this classification. Additional minimum qualifications and special conditions may apply to a specific position within this classification and will be stated on the job announcement.

Experience: None Required.

Licenses/Certifications:

The following licensure/certifications are required at the time of hire.

- License to practice as a registered professional nurse in the State of Oregon
- Basic Life Support (BLS) certificate.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

Must successfully pass a criminal history check which may include national or state fingerprint records check.

Must pass a pre-employment drug test.

Driving may be necessary for County business. For position(s) with occasional/incidental driving, incumbents must possess a valid driver's license. Accommodation requests for an acceptable alternative method of transportation will be reviewed on an individual basis in compliance with State and Federal legislation. For position(s) with regular driving, incumbent(s) must also possess and maintain an acceptable driving record throughout the course of employment.

Edited: 11/17