



# VOLUNTEER NURSE

## Role Description

### Details:

- **Location:** Skanda Vale Hospice, Saron, Llandysul, SA44 5DY.
- **Hours:** 10 hours or 1 shift minimum per month.
- **Supported by:** Lead Nurse / Deputy Lead Nurse

### Overview:

As a Volunteer Nurse at Skanda Vale Hospice, you will play an important role in providing compassionate care and support to patients with a life-limiting illness and their families. Working closely with the wider care team of nurses, carers, companions and complementary therapists, you will help deliver holistic, truly person-centred care, to enhance people's quality of life and make their time with us a positive one.

### Responsibilities:

- **Patient Care:** Offer skilled nursing care, administering medication, managing symptoms, and helping with personal care with patience, empathy and compassion.
- **Assessment and Planning:** Carry out thorough, holistic assessments of patients' physical, emotional and psychosocial needs and work together with the team to develop individualised care plans.
- **Communication:** Build trusting relationships with patients, families and colleagues, offering information, emotional support and advocacy where needed, to ensure patients' wishes are respected and addressed.
- **Documentation:** Maintain accurate and up-to-date records of patient care, ensuring confidentiality and compliance with legal and ethical standards.

|                      |                         |                      |                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Author:</i>       | <i>Ref:</i>             | <i>Status: Draft</i> | <i>Revision:</i> |
| <i>Reviewer: SMC</i> | <i>Associated Docs:</i> |                      |                  |

- **Education and Support:** Offer support and advice to patients and families around symptom management, pain relief and other aspects of palliative care, empowering them to participate in decision-making and self-care.
- **Collaboration:** Work collaboratively with doctors, nurse practitioners, social workers, spiritual carers and other team members to support genuinely patient-centred care, ensuring seamless transitions between care settings as well as continuity of care.
- **Health and Safety:** Follow infection control protocols, health and safety regulations and hospice policies and procedures to maintain a safe and hygienic environment for all.
- **Self-Awareness:** Seek support from senior colleagues as needed to manage your emotional well-being and actively participate in individual or group reflection, debriefing, clinical supervision sessions, and other support strategies.
- **Professional Development:** Engage in ongoing learning opportunities to enhance your skills and knowledge in palliative care nursing.

## Qualifications, skills and qualities:

- **Registered Nurse (RN):** Hold an RN qualification with current registration and indemnity insurance to practise without restrictions.
- **Team Player:** Comfortable working collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team, largely composed of volunteers with a range of care experience,
- **Previous Experience:** A background in palliative care nursing is valued, though not essential.
- **Clinical Skills:** Strong clinical assessment and nursing skills, including the ability to manage complex symptoms and provide psychosocial support to patients and families.
- **Communication Skills:** The ability to communicate effectively and with sensitivity and respect with patients and families from diverse backgrounds.
- **Compassion:** Empathy, with a patient-centred approach to care and a commitment to upholding the dignity, autonomy and values of our patients and those closest to them.
- **Adaptability:** Able to respond well to changing circumstances, even amidst interruptions.
- **Professionalism:** Composure in potentially high-stress and emotionally charged situations and the ability to respond promptly to critical events.

## Training and support:

- We provide comprehensive induction and training to familiarise Volunteer Nurses with hospice policies, procedures, and protocols.
- You'll also receive ongoing support and supervision to ensure you feel confident and valued in your role and we offer a range of team development opportunities.

|                      |                         |                      |                  |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Author:</i>       | <i>Ref:</i>             | <i>Status: Draft</i> | <i>Revision:</i> |
| <i>Reviewer: SMC</i> | <i>Associated Docs:</i> |                      |                  |