



## **Volunteer Physiotherapist Role Description**

Saint Raphael's Hospice Mission Statement clearly states that we value the contribution made by each member of Staff and **Volunteer**. Without volunteers we would not be able to offer the high standard of service to our patients and those important to them. Volunteers' contribution cannot be over emphasised.

### **ROLE PROFILE:**

Physiotherapist volunteers support our patients and those important to them on our In-Patient Unit (IPU). St Raphael's Hospice will provide a full induction to the role and regular support. Volunteer physiotherapists will be sensitive to the needs of terminally ill patients and their families spending time with them as directed by the clinical team.

### **TIME COMMITMENT:**

The Physiotherapist volunteers for a minimum of 2 hours per week. They are given sufficient information to fulfil their role.

### **DRESS CODE:**

Physiotherapist volunteers will wear a tunic and reflect the professional image of the hospice. A volunteer badge and access control pass must be worn.

### **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

#### **Patient Care**

Provide gentle, comfort-focused physiotherapy assessments and treatments for hospice patients.

Manage pain, breathlessness, and mobility issues to improve quality of life.

Use positioning techniques, breathing exercises, and gentle movement to enhance patient comfort.

Adapt all interventions to patient energy levels and comfort needs.

Support patients with transfers and mobility within their capabilities.

#### **Family Support**

Teach families simple positioning and comfort techniques.

Provide guidance on safe handling and movement assistance.

Offer emotional support during treatment sessions

Help families understand how physiotherapy can support their loved one's comfort

### **TEAM COLLABORATION::**

Support nursing staff and other healthcare professionals

Communicate patient progress and needs to the care team  
Participate in care planning discussions when appropriate  
Follow hospice policies and procedures

### **DOCUMENTATION**

Maintain simple, clear records of patient assessments and treatments on EMIS  
Document patient comfort levels and response to interventions  
Record family education provided

### **PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:**

Maintain current professional registration and insurance  
Support the hospice within scope of practice appropriate for hospice care  
Respect patient dignity and confidentiality at all times  
Practice cultural and spiritual sensitivity

### **VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT:**

Provide reliable, consistent service within agreed timeframe  
Communicate availability and any schedule changes in advance  
Participate in volunteer training and orientation programmes  
Seek guidance from hospice staff when needed

### **VOLUNTEERS MUST NOT:**

- Give out their personal details
- Give any medical or financial advice
- Witness any documents
- Administer medication

### **VOLUNTEER ARE EXPECTED TO**

- Complete the St Raphael's mandatory training modules via Blue Stream Training appropriate to this role
- Attend any bespoke additional training sessions offered and support meetings
- Inform the hospice if there are any hazards or health or safety issues detected.
- Be familiar with the relevant policies needed for this role
- Understand the boundaries of the role requesting assistance and advice where appropriate.

The Physiotherapist Volunteer Role Description does not intend to cover all aspects of the role. There may be other duties you will be asked to perform. If any Volunteer is asked to perform a task about which they feel unhappy, they must feel free to say so.

The Volunteer Role is an integral part of the smooth running of the Hospice and we wish to thank you all for Volunteering.