

Job title:	Minor Illness Nurse	Reports to:	Urgent Care Lead	Grade:	6
Organisation Unit:	Nursing	Responsible for:	Direct Clinical Care	Working hours:	PT/ FT
Job Purpose / Job Overview					
<p>The Minor Illness Nurse plays a critical role in the management and treatment of patients presenting with minor illnesses and acute conditions within a general practice setting. This role involves the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of a wide range of minor illnesses, ensuring timely and effective care for patients. The Minor Illness Nurse works independently but supported by GPs, nurse practitioners, and other healthcare professionals to provide high-quality, patient-centered care.</p>					
Key Responsibilities			Person Criteria		
<p>1. Clinical Assessment and Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct thorough clinical assessments of patients presenting with minor illnesses, such as respiratory infections, urinary tract infections, skin conditions, and minor injuries. Diagnose and manage acute conditions, formulating appropriate treatment plans, including prescribing medications within the scope of practice (if qualified as an independent prescriber). Provide advice on self-care, symptom management, and when to seek further medical attention. <p>2. Patient Care and Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer patient education on minor illnesses, including prevention, management, and the appropriate use of medications. Provide guidance on over-the-counter medications and home remedies, promoting responsible use of healthcare resources. Educate patients on the signs and symptoms of conditions that are worsening or require further medical evaluation and when to seek additional care. <p>3. Clinical Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform relevant clinical procedures, such as wound care, dressing changes, removal of sutures, and administration of injections as needed. Carry out diagnostic tests, including urinalysis, throat swabs, and peak flow measurements, interpreting results to guide treatment decisions. Manage patient follow-ups, ensuring continuity of care and monitoring the progress of treatment plans. 			<p>Qualifications</p> <p>Registered Nurse (RN) with a valid NMC (Nursing and Midwifery Council) registration. Additional qualifications in minor illness management, such as a Minor Illness and Injury diploma, are highly desirable.</p> <p>Knowledge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proficiency in conducting thorough clinical assessments of patients presenting with minor illnesses. Understanding of differential diagnosis techniques to distinguish between similar symptoms and identify underlying conditions. Ability to take detailed patient histories and perform physical examinations relevant to minor illnesses. In-depth knowledge of common minor illnesses seen in primary care. Familiarity with the presentation, aetiology, and progression of these conditions. Understanding of when a minor illness may indicate a more serious underlying condition that requires referral. Knowledge of the pharmacological treatments commonly used for minor illnesses, including over-the-counter medications, antibiotics, and analgesics. Ability to provide clear and effective patient education on the management of minor illnesses, including symptom relief, home care strategies, and when to seek further medical advice. 		

<p>4. Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work collaboratively with GPs, nurse practitioners, and other healthcare professionals to ensure comprehensive care for patients.• Refer patients to GPs or other specialists when a condition requires more complex management or further investigation.• Maintain accurate and up-to-date patient records, documenting all clinical interactions, assessments, diagnoses, and treatment plans.• Engage in continuous professional development to stay updated on best practices, clinical guidelines, and emerging trends in minor illness management.	<p>Experience</p> <p>A minimum of 3-5 years of nursing experience, with significant experience in primary care, urgent care, or minor illness management.</p> <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong clinical assessment and diagnostic skills, with expertise in managing minor illnesses.• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to educate and advise patients effectively.• Ability to work autonomously while also collaborating effectively with a multidisciplinary team.• Proficiency in using electronic health records (EHR) systems and other healthcare-related software.• Strong organisational and time-management abilities, with a focus on efficiency and patient care.
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