

Complementary Therapist Role Description

- Role:** Volunteer Complementary Therapist
- Accountable to:** Family and Bereavement Support Team Leader
- Responsible to:** Complementary Therapy Lead
- Overall Objective:** To provide complementary therapy to patients, carers and the bereaved as a member of the Family and Bereavement Support team, in accordance with the policies of Hospice at Home West Cumbria. The volunteer will also follow the guidelines for support volunteers.
- Location:** The complementary service covers the area from Maryport to Millom. Therapy is provided in a community setting, hospital or in the person's own home. The exact location will be agreed with the Complementary Therapy Lead.
- Hours:** Approximately 2 to 3 hours per week to be agreed between the volunteer and the Complementary Therapy Lead.
- Skills required:** An accredited Therapy qualification as recognised by the National Institute for Clinical Effectiveness (NICE) and previous experience.

This is a voluntary position where no pay will be given, however travel expenses will be refunded and out of pocket expenses as agreed with the Nurse Team Leader.

Roles are subject to a 1 month trial.

Key Responsibilities:

1. To receive referrals from the Complementary Therapy Lead and/or direct from the "Hospice Hub" Referrals Meeting.
2. To assess the patients/carers for the particular therapy type and to monitor its effectiveness (including specific contra-indications)

following discussion and explanation to patients/carers.

3. To gain agreement and written consent following explanation of therapies that are to be offered.
4. To agree therapy times, dates and duration of treatment
5. To give pre and post care advice following therapy.
6. To record all treatment sessions, for inclusion in patients electronic care plan.
7. To ensure privacy, dignity and confidentiality at all times.

General:

1. Respect the confidentiality of any information held in relation to past or present patients, carers, staff and other volunteers.
2. Attend annual Moving and Handling training and Risk Awareness training specific to their role.
3. The organisation has a no-smoking policy for staff and volunteers.