

# Prostate Cancer Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) core job description

## Job role

A CNS should be the main point of contact for all men diagnosed with prostate cancer. They should act as the link between the multidisciplinary team and the patient, being the patients advocate, coordinating the cancer care pathway to provide effective care for men and their families. CNSs need to show leadership and deliver education and clinical excellence.

## Clinical skills

### Putting quality at the heart of practice:

- Delivering evidence-based, individualised care through holistic needs assessment, planning and evaluation of care and all care interventions.
- Defining a clear care pathway, referring to other professionals and signposting to other suitable support agencies.
- Leading the nursing contribution to service development and pursuing excellence in care for men with prostate cancer.

### Providing clinical expertise:

- Offering specialist advice and support across service boundaries.
- Influencing and developing policy and clinical guidelines internally and externally.
- Promoting self-management, undertaking risk stratification to assess which patients can self-manage, following education, who will need guided support to self-manage and who will require on-going, face-to-face support.

### Delivering patient care by:

- Actively integrating theory and practice.
- Acting as a Key Worker for men with prostate cancer and their families.
- Working to coordinate care and provide easy access for ongoing support for prostate cancer patients.
- Assessing patients' information needs and provides information to meet those needs.

## Leadership

### Key skills:

- Acting as a role model demonstrating high standards of care and providing clinical leadership to others.
- Using excellent advanced communication skills, creative reasoning, problem solving and vision to improve care and deal with difficult situations.
- Providing specialist education and training to other professionals involved in patient care.
- Leading the development, management and promotion of the service ensuring the delivery of high quality, cost-effective care.
- Leading the development of patient focused education, including training to self-manage ongoing side effects of treatment.

### Responsible for:

- Promoting care tailored to the patient and involving the patient in decision making.
- Collating and recording quantitative and qualitative data to provide evidence of productivity, outcomes and quality, through audit and research.
- Participating in service reviews to drive service improvement.
- Leading on the implementation and monitoring of adherence to relevant clinical guidelines.
- Actively participates in multi-disciplinary meetings, acting as patient advocate and representing nursing views.
- Instigating and managing change within a complex environment.

## Education

### Leading on:

- Influencing the development of prostate cancer treatment to others through education and training.
- Promoting patient and public experience feedback through local initiatives to drive innovation and change.

### Responsible for:

- Keeping up to date and developing new skills in response to emerging knowledge and techniques.
- Life-long learning and personal development through clinical supervision, appraisal and Knowledge and Skills Framework and engage with opportunities for learning and development through Prostate Cancer UK.
- Making sure that men affected by prostate cancer are aware of the full range of resources and services to support them and their families.

### Research skills:

- Demonstrating high level clinical, technical and research skills.
- Continuous evaluation of practice and making changes where appropriate.
- Publishing and presenting innovations, audit and research locally and nationally.

