

**ORANGE COUNTY CLASS SPECIFICATION**

**TITLE:** PSYCHIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER **GRADE:** 17

**TITLE ABBREVIATION:** PSYCH NURSE PRACT **TITLE NO.:** 6538

**JURIS.CL:** C **SALARY CODE:** 01 **UNIT:**     **EEO CODE:** PR **FLSA CODE:** PR(1)

**DEPARTMENT:** MENTAL HEALTH **DIVISION:** MENTAL HEALTH SVCS

**SUPERVISOR'S TITLE:** CLINIC DIRECTOR

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This work involves responsibility for the provision of primary health care working in collaboration with a licensed physician or physicians. Services are provided to supplement psychiatrist hours and involve evaluation, diagnosis, prescription of medication and treatment of mental health patients with the goal of achieving stabilization and optimal mental health. Work is performed under general supervision of the Clinic Director in clinical collaboration with a licensed physician or physicians in accordance with a written practice agreement and written medical protocols. Supervision may be exercised over staff within a clinical team. Does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

1. Performs initial intakes and psychiatric evaluations and establishes diagnosis by history, mental status exam and assessment of signs and symptoms;
2. Prescribes treatment based on results of the psychiatric evaluation;
3. Functions as resource to the clinical team providing instruction and guidance in the areas of health education, preventive medicine, communicable disease, medications, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures;
4. Prescribes and manages medication to stabilize and maintain the patient;
5. Orders and interprets lab tests in order to monitor medications and as part of the ongoing evaluation of the patient;

6. Coordinates areas of treatment by conferring and communicating with other providers of health care and makes appropriate referrals for areas of care outside of psychiatry;
7. Deals with and resolves emergency situations in the absence of a psychiatrist;
8. Conducts both individual, family and group therapy sessions.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Thorough knowledge of the clinical psychiatric nursing specialty; thorough knowledge of the principles and techniques involved in the assessment and application of psychiatric treatment and diagnostics; thorough knowledge of all aspects of prescribing psychotropic medications; good knowledge of the New York State Nurse Practice Act; skill in clinical assessment, treatment and follow-up care of psychiatric patients; skill in the application of nursing procedures, practices and techniques; ability to formulate plans of care including diagnosis, treatment, record-keeping/follow-up and referral as needed; ability to communicate instructions of a technical nature to patients and clinic staff; ability to recognize signs and symptoms associated with changes in the mental and physical health of patients and respond appropriately; ability to supervise the administration of prescribed psychotropic medications; empathy; good judgment; initiative and resourcefulness; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Possession of a current certification from the New York State Education Department as a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner with prescription privileges.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Must possess the ability to fulfill the travel requirements of field assignments.

ADOPTED: 12/11/99 MF