

## PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTH EAST HAMPSHIRE HEALTH AUTHORITY

## PETERSFIELD COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

JOB DESCRIPTION: Clinical Assistant in Geriatric Medicine  
Petersfield Community Hospital  
Geriatric Day Hospital

PETERSFIELD GERIATRIC DAY HOSPITAL

The Petersfield Geriatric Day Hospital is one of three geriatric Day Hospitals within the large Portsmouth and South East Hampshire Health Authority. It covers an area extending from Liss in the north and Clanfield in the south and encompasses the villages of Buriton, East Meon, Langrish, Foxfield, Steep and Hangers. The population over 65 years is 4,838 and over 75 years is 2,417. The Day Hospital is a purpose built and located on the site of the new Petersfield Community Hospital due to open in December 1991.

The Petersfield Community Hospital has inpatient services for Maternity Care patients, Elderly Longstay, Pyschiatric, Pyschogeriatric and General Practitioner patients. There is also Day Hospital facilities for Pyschiatric and Pyschogeriatric patients.

PHILOSOPHY OF SERVICE: In keeping with the other geriatric Day Hospitals in the district the Geriatric Day Hospital in Petersfield aims to provide most of the facilities of inpatient care on a daily basis. These include rehabilitation, maintenance, medical assessment, nursing care and social care. The Day Hospital aims to bridge the gap between hospital and community care enabling elderly patients to maintain independent lives in the community for as long as is feasible.

STAFFING:

It is planned that the Department will be staffed by 2 consultants (Dr D Jarrett and Dr A Dowd) who will each contribute one clinical session per fortnight. There are two clinical assistant sessions per week. The days of these morning sessions have yet to be decided and will depend on a proposed new consultant appointment anticipated soon.

THE PATIENTS:

The patients will have a wide variety of medical, rehabilitation, pyschiatric and social problems. Up to ten patients can be seen in hospital on each day. The anticipated workload is thought to be about 2,000 patient days per year.

CLINICAL ASSISTANT DUTIES:

The Clinical Assistant is expected to clerk the patients when they arrive on their initial visit and order the appropriate investigations in collaboration with the consultant, nursing staff and other paramedical staff. The Clinical Assistant will formulate a treatment plan for the patient and will record reasonable goals as part of the internal audit within the Department. Formal assessment of mental function and Activity of Daily Living indexes are routinely performed. The work of the Department is firmly founded on a multi-disciplinary model. Multi-disciplinary team meetings allow for forward planning of patient care. The Clinical Assistant will also have to address the every day ongoing medical problems of the patients as they present.