CSVS

THE COLLEGE AND SOCIETY
FOR CLINICAL VASCULAR SCIENCE
Great Britain and Ireland

Professional Standards

Clinical Vascular Scientist Job Description

Version 1.0

October 2023

Doc Ref PS-SM008

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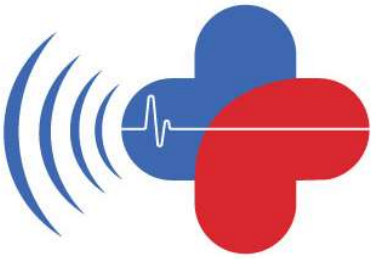
Version Number	Change	Author	Date
1.0	**New document**	**Author: Joanne Walker** **Review By:** PSC Committee **Approval: CSVS Exec committee**	**October 2023**

Purpose

This document was prepared by the Professional Standards Committee (PSC) of the College and Society for Clinical Vascular Science (CSVS) to support the writing of local job descriptions for Vascular Science. This document may be used in its entirety (or referenced in part with suitable additions made by local policy implementers) by all parties involved with clinical vascular science. Suggestions for improving this document are welcome and should be sent to the Chair of the PSC (see csvs.org.uk for current PSC Chair details).

Note the coloured text will help highlight areas of specific expertise such as education or research, however some or all or the specialist vascular scientist roles may be applicable.

See the CSVS Scope of Practice for Diagnostic Procedures for additional information.



Band 7	CSVS Clinical Vascular Scientist Job Description, Version 1, Oct 2023
Job Summary	A Clinical Vascular Scientist role is to provide comprehensive range of urgent and routine highly specialised diagnostic vascular ultrasound service, and provides clinical scientific support to healthcare professionals such as vascular surgery and other specialties. To assume a high degree of autonomy and independently undertake and report on a full range of highly complex specialist vascular science diagnostic investigations, including ultrasound and other non-invasive tests. The service provided is integral to clinical decision making. You will also be involved with research and clinical audit. You will also provide support and training to junior staff and other healthcare staff.
1. Communication & Relationship Skills	• Experience of working independently, flexible/adaptable working, strategic thinking, and as part of multidisciplinary teams • Excellent oral and written communication skills. • Excellent interpersonal skills across all levels (Medical, Nursing, Technical, Scientific, Clerical, Patients and visitors) including those whose first language is not English, have learning difficulties, are elderly, or who may have difficulty understanding. • Able to establish & maintain effective working professional relationships and networks with peers and relevant stakeholders including external parties. • Able to build confidence and trust with patients in a clinical environment by applying a professional and empathic approach, and recognise potentially sensitive, distressing or highly complex situations or aggressive and abusive situations. • Able to deal with occasional personnel problems and complaints • Actively participate in multi-disciplinary team meetings both within the unit and in other departments and specialties.
2. Knowledge, Training & Experience	• A Bachelor's Degree (Honours) and: Full accreditation with Society for Vascular Technology, Accredited Vascular Scientist (AVS) and/or: • CASE Accredited Masters-Level postgraduate qualification in Vascular Ultrasound (PG Dip/Cert/MSc) • Maintain up to date scientific, technical knowledge and training of vascular science by attending relevant meetings and / or CPD activities
3. Analytical & Judgemental Skills	• Able to reflect and appraise own performance • Analyse and interpret requests and referrals to review, triage and perform appropriate investigations to answer the clinical question and diagnosis • Interpreting highly complex ultrasound blood-flow and non-imaging data taking full responsibility for producing highly detailed, concise and accurate reports to referring clinicians to enable appropriate and timely clinical decision-making.

4. Planning & Organisational Skills	• Ability to work on own initiative, manage and prioritise complex workload, work to tight deadlines and be flexible to the unpredictable service demands. • Flexible, objective and adaptable as situation demands • Able to respond and rapidly adapt to unpredictable work patterns and frequent interruptions, and able to work under periods of pressure or clinical urgency • Responsibility for organisation of clinical and personal workload and that of junior staff. Ability to prioritise workload in response to changing clinical circumstances, particularly in the advent of urgent or emergency situations • Working as part of the team to ensure efficient day-to-day provision of the vascular diagnostic scanning service • To ensure work is delivered in accordance to department SOP and required deadlines
5. Physical Skills	• Perform a full range of complex diagnostic duplex ultrasound scans, and non-imaging investigations which often require long duration of physical fine movement for probe manipulation, using highly skilled hand eye coordination and ensuring appropriate patient positioning.
6. Responsibility for Patient/ Client Care	• Able to demonstrate a commitment to and understanding of the importance of treating all individuals with dignity and respect, appropriate to their individual needs. • Provides highly specialist clinical scientific and technical vascular services • Provide advice, support, and information to patients and their relatives / carers as required and involve patients, relatives / carers in the planning and delivery of care. • To ensure the health & safety of patients and others within your care, including appropriate management of risks. • Clinical Vascular Scientists are expected to engage in compassionate and inclusive leadership in the provision of high quality care and interactions with others • Identify patients requiring urgent attention/admission, or delay of planned discharge of patients, and ensure urgent clinical review accordingly e.g. due to the discovery of significant pathology and/or symptoms where there is a high risk of limb loss, stroke or other complications. Where required, arrange fast-track onward referral.
7. Responsibility for Policy/ Service Development	• To be actively involved in the development and review of new and existing departmental policies and protocols
8. Responsibility for Financial & Physical Resources	• Report defective equipment and remove it from service. Where appropriate, organise the repair of equipment through relevant equipment management services • Ensure that clinical work areas and diagnostic equipment are kept in a safe, clean and tidy condition and maintain appropriate stock levels • Responsibility for the use of expensive and highly complex and/or expensive (>£50k) diagnostic equipment • Assist the departments accountable budget holder in maintaining financial targets • Assist with assessment, procurement and disposal/decommissioning of equipment where required • Monitor and/or maintain supplies and consumables to ensure that there is effective management of resources including storage and usage • Bring to the attention of the budget holder any concerns, ideas, or creative solutions relevant to the effective use and management of supplies and resources

	• Responsible for the safe use and management of all equipment.
9. Responsibility for Human Resources	• To undertake appropriate training where required in relation to specific teaching or mentoring duties. • To act as a student mentor and assessor where required • Provide relevant teaching and supervision to trainees within the department. • Provision of relevant teaching and training to other healthcare professionals e.g. nursing, medical staff, allied health professionals and students within or outside of the department.
10. Responsibility for Information Resources	• Responsible for ensuring reports are saved onto the appropriate information storage systems such as PACS • Ability to utilise and access information systems to record clinical observations, test results, case reports or research data. • Responsibility to ensure appropriate information governance
11. Responsibility for Research and Development	• Participate in regular departmental audit activities and clinical governance • Active involvement in regular clinical and scientific research, and medical trials when required. Contribute to analysis and interpretation of results. • Where appropriate, deliver presentations at local and national meetings
12. Freedom to Act	• Full autonomy to plan, adjust and tailor the scope of the investigation, which may require modification from established protocol, depending on individual patient symptoms and/or pathology found during the course of the investigation. • Advise clinicians of any limitations that may affect the accuracy of requested investigations and where appropriate, recommend alternative diagnostic imaging techniques or modalities.
13. Physical Effort	• The physical ability to perform a full range of diagnostic duplex ultrasound tests which often are a long duration (30-60 minutes per patient) for a full working shift, and can involve physical effort associated with bending, reaching and holding strenuous positions for a considerable period during a test or scan. • Assist patients who may need pushing in a wheelchair, assisted transfer such as from a chair to examination couch (which may include using manual handing aids), or physical effort required for bedside scanning in confined spaces, including restricted positioning of patient and / or Clinical Vascular Scientist. • The ability to manoeuvre heavy equipment such as the wheel-based ultrasound machines (>100kg), with frequent small movements during the duration of a scan investigation, and movements of equipment associated with pre- and post-scan room setup.
14. Mental Effort	• Able to process and organise complex information • Frequent requirement, often for a full shift, of prolonged concentration performing complex investigations, including times of unpredictable interruptions for urgent enquiries or scans. • Occasional requirement for intense concentration for a highly complex scan in a challenging situation such as clinically urgent and time constrained scans, or a scan in a challenging high pressure environments such as theatres, emergency department, and intensive care.
15. Emotional Effort	• Clearly communicate to patients the nature of, and reasons for the investigation, and where appropriate the findings of the investigation.

	• Use discretion and tact, and expert knowledge to deal sensitively with patients (such as occasional distressing situations where patients may be at risk of stroke, death or limb loss). • Frequent situations where delivery of distressing news such as diagnosis of significant vascular disease • Occasional receipt of highly distressing information from patients which may raise safeguarding or other issues which need to be reported and escalated. • Occasional exposure to challenging behavioural issues, which may include physical or verbal abuse, such as patients with severe dementia.
16. Working Conditions	• Able to deal with frequent unpleasant situations where there may be body fluids, odours and open wounds, and infection risks. • Occasional exposure to verbal or physical aggression • To work with awareness of the risks and appropriate use of VDU's and workstations on a daily basis • To work with awareness of the risks of repetitive strain injuries and work related upper limb disorders associated with ultrasound scanning and practice to reduce risk of incidence. • Understand the potential hazards and bio-effects of Doppler ultrasound in order to ensure safe use in medical applications. Understand relevant national and international safety guidelines • Occasional need to perform diagnostic vascular investigations in confined spaces, such as bedside scans.