

PHYSICIAN SPECIALIST**Nature of Work**

Under administrative direction, performs full-performance professional level work conducting mental, physical and neurological examinations (relative to a medical specialty) of patients in a state facility. Diagnoses illnesses; directs nurses, aides and others in the care and treatment of patients. Prescribes drugs and other treatment and testifies in court cases as an expert witness as to the mental and physical state of the patient. Typically works at a large state facility. Refers patients to other physicians for treatments out of the medical area. If assigned to the Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion in the Department of Health and Human Resources, designs, conducts and prepares reports on epidemiological studies of communicable diseases, collects and analyzes epidemiological data, develops epidemiological data, develops health education materials, and provides expert consultation in the field of epidemiology. Develops research proposals, grant applications and epidemiological research. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

The incumbent must be licensed to practice a recognized medical specialty and must be practicing within that specialty at a state health facility or in a central office location within the agency.

Examples of Work

Essential Job Functions - Any specific position in this class may not include all of the duties listed, nor do the examples listed cover all of the duties which may be assigned.

- Examines and evaluates patients to determine condition and to prescribe treatment.
- Prescribes therapy and/or drugs; monitors patient's progress, records observations and changes, and adjusts therapy as required.
- Dictates, writes or records information to meet requests for information, records, requirements or journal publications.
- Testifies in court cases as to the physical or mental state of the patient.
- Attends meetings, seminars, institutes and conferences to disseminate information or to gather information to aid in the treatment of patients.
- Makes rounds at a health care facility.
- Maintains varied hours on a rotated schedule with other physicians to ensure that there is always a physician on-call during non-business hours.
- Designs, plans and conducts epidemiologic investigations and studies.
- Plans, develops and directs statewide chronic, communicable disease and injury control problems.
- Analyzes new and existing data related to epidemiologic problems.

PHYSICIAN SPECIALIST (CONT'D)**Examples of Work (cont'd)**

Develops and evaluates public health interventions aimed at controlling chronic and communicable diseases.
Develops epidemiology research proposals and grant applications.
Interprets and disseminates epidemiologic findings to appropriate health care providers and policy makers.
Directs record and disease reporting systems including publications of statistical information.
Develops and critiques public health education material.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Knowledge of principles, practices, techniques and advances in the area of specialty.
Knowledge of the organization and function of community health, mental health, human services, and other health or health-related agencies.
Knowledge of state and federal laws related to the specialty.
Knowledge of laboratory methods, equipment and tests.
Ability to diagnose and treat a wide variety of diseases and injuries in the area of specialty.
Ability to direct and plan the work of professional and support staff.
Ability to design, plan and conduct investigations and studies.
Ability to follow the departmental or institutional policies concerning the treatment of patients.
Ability to communicate with a wide variety of people, both orally and in writing.

Minimum Qualifications

Training: A temporary or permanent license to practice medicine or osteopathy in West Virginia plus board certification OR a temporary or permanent license to practice medicine or osteopathy in West Virginia and four (4) years of experience in the specialty area.

Established: 7/16/92
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