
IRISi Oral health and Domestic Abuse programme – Clinical Lead

Job Description and Person Specification

Job description

Position title: Clinical Lead (CL) for IRISi's Oral health and Domestic Abuse (DA) programme

Responsible to: IRISi

Hours: Approx 2-3 hours per week (to work flexibly)

Post: 12 months fixed term contract

Location: Dental practice to be based within North Central London (local travel may be required within the role)

Contract: Locum

Salary: In line with BDA guild rate

IRISi is a registered charity dedicated to improving the healthcare response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV). They bridge the gap between healthcare professionals and Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and their evidence-based programmes provide specialist support for victims and survivors.

Funding from the West & North London ICB has enabled the development of a dedicated Oral Health and Domestic Abuse (DA) programme across the area, providing access to specialist DA training and consultancy for dental teams and a direct referral route for patients with experiences of DA. Advocacy is available for individuals within the dental teams too.

The programme will be delivered by two Advocate Educators (AEs) at IRISi. AEs are specialist DA workers who will design and deliver the training for dental teams, be available for on-going consultancy and be the direct named specialists for patient referrals. Patients will receive trauma sensitive advocacy and will be triaged to local specialist services as appropriate.

The Clinical Lead will act as the clinical ambassador for the Oral Health and Domestic Abuse Programme across West and North London. Working alongside IRISi Advocate Educators, the postholder will champion trauma-informed dental care, promote engagement with the training programme, support implementation of emerging referral pathways, and help embed sustainable improvements in how dental services identify and respond to patients experiencing domestic abuse.

The role requires a flexible and proactive approach to support the development and implementation of this innovative programme. Applicants need to demonstrate some understanding of domestic abuse (DA) as a gendered issue, the local health landscape and a desire to learn.

A. Aims of the position:

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- To act as the conduit between IRISi and the dental partners
 - Champion equitable access to oral healthcare for vulnerable populations experiencing domestic abuse and multiple disadvantage.
 - To support with the initial training session for teams/individuals on understanding and responding to DA to provide clinical perspective/experience as appropriate.
 - To provide guidance for the Oral health and DA programme for dental teams, provide peer support for colleagues and to promote and support the programme.
 - To work in close partnership with the advocate educators (AEs) to promote and champion the project.
 - To provide peer support and to maintain an effective relationship with dental teams; including delivering presentations and attending local meetings as necessary.

B. Specific areas of responsibility:

The IRISi Oral health and DA Clinical Lead has responsibility to:

- Act as an ambassador for the programme.
- Build and sustain strong links with key partners such as practice owners, safeguarding leads and commissioners to maximise engagement.
- Promote the programme through Local Dental Committees (LDCs), Managed Clinical Networks and professional forums.
- Support delivery of DA training to clinicians and staff in participating dental practices in partnership with the advocate educator.
- Support recruitment and engagement of early adopter dental practices and practice champions.
- Act as the clinical point of contact and trusted peer for participating practices.
- Develop and maintain an up-to-date working knowledge of DA and health both locally and nationally with training and support from IRISi.
- Attendance at IRISi training course (in September – approximately 14 hours over a 2-week period) and other relevant meetings.
- Support implementation of the developing dental access pathway for women experiencing domestic abuse, helping build relationships between participating dental practices and local supported accommodation services.
- Work collaboratively with IRISi, commissioners and dental teams to continuously refine and improve the programme based on learning and feedback.
- Support collection of learning, case studies and evaluation findings to inform future development of the programme.

C. Knowledge, skills and abilities

The post holder must be a practising dentist or dental nurse.

It is essential that the post holder has the following:

- Dental practitioner working clinically in NHS practice.
- Minimum of 5 year's experience of working within NHS primary dental care.

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- Comfortable working within an evolving programme and adapting approaches as learning emerges.
 - Applicants should demonstrate an understanding of domestic abuse as a public health issue, recognising its gendered nature and wider impact on oral health, alongside knowledge of the local dental and healthcare landscape. Ability to use their own existing dental network and grow this network to promote the IRISi training offer and support delivery.
 - Up to date training on information sharing, confidentiality, data protection and safeguarding adults and children.
 - Experience of presenting and engaging with a range of audiences. Ability to deliver presentations both virtually and face-to-face.
 - Experience of providing peer support, mentoring and leadership.
 - Excellent leadership, interpersonal and influencing skills.
 - Ability to motivate peers and build collaborative relationships.
 - Ability to think and plan, balancing needs and constraints.
 - Demonstrate good time management and a proactive approach to delivering outcomes to deadlines.

It is desirable that the post holder has the following:

- Ability to articulate clearly in an objective manner and challenge constructively
- Ability to work as part of a diverse team & develop workable solutions
- Ability to provide an unbiased view when discussing thought provoking/challenging topics
- Knowledge of local DA services
- An understanding of the relationship between DA and safeguarding
- Understanding of health inequalities and of local demographics
- An understanding of the impact of multiple, intersecting oppressions (e.g. sexism, racism, homophobia, ableism, etc) and the consequent barriers for some survivors of domestic abuse to accessing health and other services