

Independent Prescriber (IP)

Role Purpose

- Provide high quality service delivery to people who use substances/their significant others.
- Contribute to the overall performance of designated service(s) to ensure that contractual output targets and high clinical standards are achieved.
- Provide safe, effective and evidence-based clinical (including prescribed) interventions within the designated service(s)/partnership agencies as required by service configuration.

Key duties and activities of the role

- Work as a registered health care professional (prescriber), in designated service(s).
- Deliver health and wellbeing interventions for designated service(s).
- Assist in the development of systems, pathways and documents that promote holistic delivery of services (e.g. criminal justice, blood borne viruses).
- Provide clinical (including prescribing) interventions associated with the designated service(s), ensuring that they are in line with all relevant legislation, best practice guidance, professional and CQC standards and organisational documents.
- Ensure appropriate clinical management of people who use the designated service(s).
- Encourage people using services to access education and employment services and holistic health, wellbeing, harm reduction and recovery support activities.
- Contribute to ensuring effective use of clinical resources (including staffing, consideration of financial and contractual issues) for the designated service(s).
- Promote and support organisational interface, for example with commissioners, suppliers, primary and secondary care services (including public health, wholesalers, community pharmacy/GPs and hospitals respectively).
- Assist implementation of (medicines/drug/devices/infection control etc) alert responses in collaboration with the Clinical Department.
- Be involved in relevant audits, ongoing monitoring and implementation of associated recommendations/action plans.
- Contribute to the collation and use of clinical data and have involvement in subsequent improvements required, relating to quality/performance indicators.
- Contribute to the reporting, investigating and resolution of incidents, complaints and disciplinary matters to reduce the risk of recurrence.
- Provide competency assessment and training of staff/students/volunteers, identify and support development needs of others and support colleagues to develop in their roles to deliver excellent services.
- Undertake continuing professional development to maintain confidence and competence, to meet organisational and professional regulator revalidation requirements.
- Work in line with all relevant legislation, best practice guidance, professional and CQC standards and organisational documents.
- Provide advice and guidance on clinical (including prescribing) issues to staff working in the designated service(s), as well as other colleagues and partner agencies.

- Work alongside management and their direct reports to support a 'one team' approach.
- Where relevant, provide clinical/line management supervision for other staff and support facilitation of relevant meetings/training events.

Person specification for the role

- Healthcare professional registered with NMC/HCPC/GPhC.
- Qualified prescriber, able to prescribe independently (including controlled drugs for the management of substance use).
- Sound and demonstrable knowledge of clinical/prescribing issues relating to problematic substance use, including appropriate recovery, harm reduction and health promotion interventions.
- Solution-focused, with an inclusive and innovative approach to service development.
- Demonstrable ability to deliver an excellent quality level of service to vulnerable people with complex needs. This includes the ability to complete assessments, care and support plans, risk assessments and to complete case recording to a high standard and in a timely way.
- Good IT skills including use of Microsoft Office programs and digital meeting platforms and Case Management Systems such as Nebula.
- A demonstrable understanding of the Health and Social Care regulatory requirements including the CQC, NICE and any other relevant bodies.
- A demonstrable commitment to working in partnership with other professionals such as criminal justice agencies, primary care, secondary care, commissioners, community groups and other stakeholders to achieve good outcomes for people who use our services.
- The ability to work calmly under pressure, ensuring that deadlines are met, and ensure all information is recorded in a timely manner.
- The ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, in different settings (e.g., written, spoken, presented, etc) and to different groups of people.
- Great team working, communication, interpersonal skills and cooperative approach to supporting colleagues and the whole team to deliver organisational objectives, as well as in working directly with people who use our services and their significant others.
- Desirable:
 - Relevant post-graduate qualifications/completion of relevant recognised qualifications e.g. RCGP Drugs Part 1/2 Certificates, CMHP Credentialed (as appropriate).
 - Experience of providing clinical services for people who use substances.
 - Experience of contributing to audits, performance indicators, incident and complaints management processes and education/learning/professional development.
 - Professional affiliation e.g. RCN/RPS/CMHP/Addiction Professionals (as appropriate)
 - Experience of providing clinical supervision, line management and appraisals.

Responsibilities for all Via staff

- To work within Via values and ethos, supportively collaborating with all colleagues, and demonstrating active engagement with the wider organisation.

- To promote and deliver positive, inclusive and anti-discriminatory practices in line with Via policies, professional and sector requirements, and legislative frameworks.
- To act on all Safeguarding concerns so that all statutory and organisational Safeguarding responsibilities are met and that all learning is shared.
- To observe professional integrity and candour at all times and with all people.
- To comply with all organisational policies and procedures including GDPR and all Health and Safety policy and guidance, taking responsibility for your own safety and contributing to that of colleagues and others as applicable.
- To regularly participate in one-to-one / supervision sessions, objective setting and review, training, practice and learning forums.
- A commitment to learning and to continuously improve everyone's knowledge and skills.
- To work flexibly to enable the delivery of effective services. This may include flexibility across sites or flexible hours, and any other duties that may reasonably be required of you within your role.

Version Control				
Version number	Date created	Authors Initials		
1.0	03/08/2023	DT	RG	MD