

FOI – 2406

13th May 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RESPONSE 2406

Can the CAMHS's head of service confirm where on the Curriculum vitae of 1) A Senior mental health practitioner and 2) A Family Therapist does it demonstrate their background Education, Training and Experience in the following

- 1) The diagnostic assessment of delusional thought disorders**
 - 2) The diagnostic assessment and treatment of severe attachment Pathology**
 - 3) The diagnostic assessment of Factitious disorder**
 - 4) The diagnostic assessment of Family systems Pathology**
- Relevant to the years 2015- 2021**

Response:

A Senior Mental Health Practitioner (SMHP) is a senior member of a fully integrated CAMHS multi-disciplinary team. The SMHP Job description states they will have direct responsibility for clinical work of their own caseload of children and young people, with emotional and mental health difficulties, including assessment, risk management and provision of therapeutic interventions. Essential criteria for this role include being a registered Nurse or registered Social Worker. They should have four years post qualifying experience, which must include 2 years' experience working within mental health services, or services related to children and adolescents, or CAMHS. They should have a knowledge of mental health issues in relation to children and young people.

The role of the Family Therapist is defined in the job description as delivery of Family Therapy by providing high quality systemic family psychotherapy to children, adolescents, their families, carers and professional networks. Essential criteria for this role includes holding a primary qualification in, and maintain current registration in Nursing, Social Work, Medicine or Psychology. All applicants must have a Masters / Doctorate level qualification in Systemic Psychotherapy /Family Therapy and a minimum of 4 years' experience of working with families in a relevant mental health or social welfare setting.

The diagnostic assessment of delusional thoughts disorders falls under the Internal Classification of Diseases ICD-10 F22 code for Delusional disorders, this is a medical classification as listed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) under the range mental, behavioural and neurodevelopmental disorders and therefore a formal diagnosis would be made by a Medical Doctor/Psychiatrist.

The diagnostic assessment and treatment of severe attachment pathology falls under the ICD-10 F91 code for attachment disorders, this is a medical classification as listed by the WHO under the range mental, behavioural and neurodevelopmental disorders and therefore a formal diagnosis would be made by a Medical Doctor/Psychiatrist.

The diagnostic assessment of factitious disorder falls under the ICD-10 F68 code, this is a medical classification as listed by the WHO under the range mental, behavioural and neurodevelopmental disorders and therefore a formal diagnosis would be made by a Medical Doctor/Psychiatrist.

As outlined in the Family Therapist job description essential criteria includes having a Masters / Doctorate level qualification in Systemic Psychotherapy /Family Therapy and a minimum of 4 years' experience of working with families in a relevant mental health or social welfare setting. The job application process would outline how they meet these criteria and therefore provide the background, education and experience in the assessment of family systems pathology.

In all of the above, the diagnostic assessment and treatment would likely be completed as part of a multi-disciplinary CAMHS team of which the SMHP and Family Therapist would be involved. Diagnostic assessment is based on assessment of need and every Practitioner would be trained to a level based on their professional background. They would also have access to multi-disciplinary case discussions at team meetings and access to medical opinions. Their education, training and experience would be demonstrated on their CV in line with the essential criteria of the posts as described above.

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