



DIVISION SCOPE OF SERVICE

Division: SAN ANTONIO
Classification: GENETIC COUNSELOR – IN-FACILITY AND TELEHEALTH
Applicant Name:

<p>Genetic Counselor: The Genetic Counselor must have equivalent qualifications, competence and function in the same role as employed individuals performing the same or similar services at the facility, as defined by facility job description.</p> <p>Definition of Care or Service: The Genetic Counselor the process of helping people understand and adapt to the medical, psychological and familial implications of genetic contributions to disease. They work as members of a healthcare team, providing risk assessment, education and support to individuals and families at risk for, or diagnosed with, a variety of inherited conditions. Genetic counselors also interpret genetic testing, provide supportive counseling, and serve as patient advocates. Scope of service may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of family and medical histories to assess the change of disease occurrence or recurrence • Education about inheritance, testing, management, prevention, resources and research • Counseling to promote informed choices and adaptation to the risk or condition • Support of many areas of medicine including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ART/Infertility Genetics ○ Cancer Genetics ○ Cardiovascular Genetics ○ Cystic Fibrosis Genetics ○ Fetal Intervention and Therapy Genetics ○ Hematology Genetics ○ Metabolic Genetics ○ Neurogenetics ○ Pediatric Genetics ○ Personalized Medicine Genetics ○ Prenatal Genetics ○ Telehealth Genetic Services • Obtain and evaluate individual, family, and medical histories to determine genetic risk for genetic/medical conditions and diseases in a patient, his/her offspring, and other family members; • Discuss the features, natural history, means of diagnosis, genetic and environmental factors, and management of risk for genetic/medical conditions and diseases; • Identify and coordinate genetic laboratory tests and other diagnostic studies as appropriate for the genetic assessment; • Integrate genetic laboratory test results and other diagnostic studies with personal and family medical history to assess and communicate risk factors for genetic/medical conditions and diseases; • Explain the clinical implications of genetic laboratory tests and other diagnostic studies and their results; • Evaluate the client's or family's responses to the condition or risk of recurrence and provide client-centered counseling and anticipatory guidance; • Identify and utilize community resources that provide medical, educational, financial, and psychosocial support and advocacy; and • Provide written documentation of medical, genetic, and counseling information for families and health care professionals
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- Demonstrates Clinical and Service excellence behaviors to include code of HCA Healthcare conduct core fundamentals in daily interactions with patients, families, co-workers and physicians.

Setting(s):

- Healthcare facilities including but not limited to hospitals
- Patient care areas, all settings
- Telehealth through HIPAA compliant platform

Supervision:

- Direct supervision by the oncology service line leader or department director

Evaluator: Department director and/or Oncology Service Line Leader (may be hospital or market level)

Tier Level: 2

eSAF Access Required: YES

Qualifications:

- Master’s degree in Genetic Counseling from an ACGC Accredited Program.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Board certification through the ABGC or ACMG is voluntary, but is preferred
- License in state of practice as a Genetic Counselor (check State Requirements)

NOTE: Where education may not be defined in qualifications area of the Scope, HCA Healthcare requires the highest level of education completed (not training or courses) confirmed on your background check.

State Requirements:

- N/A

Experience:

- 1 year experience as a Genetic Counselor

Competencies:

The Genetic Counselor will demonstrate:

- Assess patients' psychological or emotional needs such as those relating to stress, fear of test results, financial issues, and marital conflicts to make referral recommendations or assist patients in managing test outcomes.
- Collect for or share with research projects patient data related to specific genetic disorders or syndromes.
- Design and conduct genetics training programs for physicians, graduate students, other health professions or the general community.
- Discuss testing options and the associated risks, benefits and limitations with patients and families to assist them in making informed decisions.
- Participate in lab utilization ensuring appropriate diagnostic testing is ordered.
- Engage in research activities related to the field of medical genetics or genetic counseling.
- Interpret laboratory results and communicate findings to patients or physicians.
- Interview patients or review medical records to obtain comprehensive patient or family medical histories, and document findings.
- Prepare or provide genetics-related educational materials to patients or medical personnel.
- Provide counseling to patient and family members by providing information, education, or reassurance.
- Provide genetic counseling in specified areas of clinical genetics such as obstetrics, pediatrics, and oncology.
- Provide patients with information about the inheritance of genetic conditions and syndromes.
- Read current literature, talk with colleagues, or participate in professional organizations or conferences to keep abreast of developments in genetics.
- Refer patients to specialists or community resources.
- Write detailed consultation reports to provide information on complex genetic concepts to patients and



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referring physicians.

- Analyze genetic information to identify patients or families at risk for specific disorders or syndromes.
- Determine or coordinate treatment plans by requesting laboratory services, reviewing genetics or counseling literature, and considering histories or diagnostic data.
- Explain diagnostic procedures such as chorionic villus sampling (CVS), ultrasound, fetal blood sampling, and amniocentesis.
- Evaluate or make recommendations for standards of care or clinical operations, ensuring compliance with applicable regulations, ethics, legislation, or policies.
- Practices consistent hand hygiene
- Infection Prevention
 - Practices consistent hand hygiene
 - Uses personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Required immunizations per Division requirements regardless if role is in-house or telehealth
 - Complies with Isolation precautions
- Core Skills of Genetic Counselors include (as defined by the National Society of Genetic Counselors):
 - Deep and broad knowledge of genetics
 - Ability to tailor, translate, and communicate complex information in a simple, relevant way for a broad range of audiences
 - Strong interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence, and self-awareness
 - Ability to dissect and analyze a complex problem
 - Research skills (self-education)
 - In-depth knowledge of healthcare delivery

References:

National Society of Genetic Counselors, About Genetic Counselors. Retrieved from <http://nsgc.org/p/cm/ld/fid=46>
 ACGC Accredited Program <http://www.gceducation.org/Pages/default.aspx>
 American Board of Genetic Counseling, <http://www.abgc.net/ABGC/AmericanBoardofGeneticCounselors.asp>

Document Control:

- Created 1/13/2017
- Content update 4/17/2019
- Content update to include Telehealth 11/17/2022

Your signature confirms you will be able to comply with the Qualifications and Competencies listed within this Scope of Service and that you will confirm education via your background check.

Applicant Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____