

# **UHS Critical Care Student Nurse Pre Placement Information**



## Welcome to Critical Care

We are pleased to provide you with a placement within Critical Care. Critical Care is composed of 4 units:

**General ICU;** Care for a variety of patients including those that have suffered emergency traumatic injury, acute medical conditions and require postoperative care.

**Surgical HDU:** Care for patients that have undergone a variety of surgical procedures such as liver resections, major abdominal surgery and major vascular intervention.

**Cardiac ICU:** Provides postoperative care for patients that have undergone open-heart surgery. Procedures such as valve replacement and cardiac bypass grafting.

**Neuro ICU:** Care for a variety of patients who have conditions affecting the brain, spinal cord or peripheral nerves.

The purpose of the following information is to give you some insight into our units, to help you settle in and also some guidance on how you can make the best use of your time with us.

### ***A Different Care Setting:***

Critical Care is a very different care environment to the ward setting. Critical Care is also very different for health care professionals and most importantly for our patients and their families. Most of them are very dependent on us for physical, psychological, spiritual well being and safety.

Due to the nature of an Intensive care unit, the complexities of the patients and the equipment you will always work with a trained member of staff.

### ***Transferability of Knowledge and Skill:***

For some of you this will be the only time in your careers that you spend time nursing in a critical care environment. There are a number of excellent principles and practices of care that will help you to deal with a wide variety of situations and needs, when you return to other care environments.

### ***Teaching:***

Your first day on the unit will be an initial induction study day which will provide information on policies, procedures and mutual expectations along with a specific unit orientation.

There is the learning practice profile for critical care can be found on the trust website:<http://www.uhs.nhs.uk/Education/Informationforstudents/Departmental-clinical-profiles.aspx>

**Critical Care Education Team:**

<b>GICU/SHDU</b>	Suzie Ridout (lead) Cath Evans	<a href="mailto:Suzanne.ridout@uhs.nhs.uk">Suzanne.ridout@uhs.nhs.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Catherine.evans@uhs.nhs.uk">Catherine.evans@uhs.nhs.uk</a>	Ext 3711
<b>Neuro ICU:</b>	Sarah Irwin (lead) Sarah Phillipson	<a href="mailto:Sarah.irwin@uhs.nhs.uk">Sarah.irwin@uhs.nhs.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Sarah.phillipson@uhs.nhs.uk">Sarah.phillipson@uhs.nhs.uk</a>	Ext 8025
<b>CICU</b>	Leisa Bingham (lead) Matthew Pearce	<a href="mailto:Leisa.bingham@uhs.nhs.uk">Leisa.bingham@uhs.nhs.uk</a> <a href="mailto:Matthew.pearce@uhs.nhs.uk">Matthew.pearce@uhs.nhs.uk</a>	Ext 3711
<b>Divisional education Lead</b>	Tania Topp	<a href="mailto:Tania.topp@uhs.nhs.uk">Tania.topp@uhs.nhs.uk</a>	Ext 3711

***If during your placement you experience any problems or difficulties please contact your Clinical Educator as well as your mentor.***

**Useful Numbers:**

SGH	02380 777222	
NICU	02381206401	Nurse in Charge: 07775 827039
GICU	02381206117	Nurse in Charge: Bleep1126
CICU	02381206121	Nurse in Charge: Bleep1491
SHDU	02381208430	

**SHIFT TIMES:**

Neuro ICU:	LD: 07:15 – 20:15	Night: 20:00 – 07:30
GICU	LD: 07:45 – 20:15	Night: 19:45 – 08:15
SHDU :	LD: 07:45 – 20:30	Night: 19:45 – 08:15
CICU	LD: 07:45 – 20:15	Night: 19:45 – 08:15

### ***How Do You Get Started?***

Now you have had the brief background, how do you get the best out of a critical care placement?

Some points to consider about Critical Care:

You may like to concentrate on a couple of these areas during your placement. The main things you need to ask yourselves are:

- What do I need to do in order to complete my Eaopp document. This placement will provide an excellent opportunity to complete your Acuity Competencies.
- What can I observe so that I have a better insight and understanding of the patient's and the family's experience of Critical Care.
- What can I learn about in the placement area, which will be beneficial to me in other care environments? Consider the necessary strategies that can help you identify at risk patients and patients who are deteriorating in the ward setting.
- Consider the essential care and rehabilitation process that helps the patients continue to recover on the wards post critical care.

### **Learning Opportunities in the Critical Care Units:**

- ◆ Negotiate a shift with the other critical care areas or Outreach Team as appropriate to your placement area.
- ◆ Join the ward round and listen to management plans for patients.
- ◆ Useful resource people on the units in addition to the nursing and medical staff are:

Physiotherapists  
Pharmacists  
Microbiologists  
Health Care Assistants  
Critical Care Technicians  
Dietician  
Occupational Therapists  
Speech and Language Therapists  
Specialist Nurses

## **SUGGESTED SELF DIRECTED STUDY TO PREPARE FOR YOUR PLACEMENT**

<b>RESPIRATORY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of normal respiratory anatomy and physiology</li> <li>• Respiratory assessment</li> <li>• Respiratory conditions</li> <li>• Respiratory medical and nursing management</li> </ul>
<b>CARDIOVASCULAR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of normal cardiac anatomy and physiology.</li> <li>• Cardiac assessment</li> <li>• Cardiac conditions</li> <li>• Cardiac medical and nursing management</li> </ul>
<b>NEUROLOGICAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of normal Neurological anatomy and physiology</li> <li>• Neurological assessment</li> <li>• Neurological conditions</li> <li>• Neurological medical and nursing management</li> </ul>
<b>RENAL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of basic anatomy and physiology of the renal system</li> <li>• Renal assessment</li> <li>• Renal conditions</li> <li>• Renal medical and nursing management</li> </ul>
<b>NUTRITION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of basic anatomy and physiology of GI system</li> <li>• Nutritional assessment</li> <li>• Nursing related care</li> </ul>
<b>PAIN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patho physiology of pain</li> <li>• Types of pain</li> <li>• Pain assessment</li> <li>• Pain medical and nursing management</li> </ul>
<b>PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the important aspects in supporting patients and families</li> </ul>