

Paediatric Critical Care – John Radcliffe Hospital

The Paediatric Critical Care Unit (PCC) is an 18 bed unit comprising Paediatric Intensive Care (PICU) and Paediatric High Dependency (PHDU). We are on Level 1 of the main hospital, by the Emergency Department.

We also have a Paediatric Critical Care Outreach Service (PCCOS). This service provides support to nursing/medical staff when caring for children after a stay on Paediatric Critical Care; this could be within the Children's Hospital at the John Radcliffe or the child's local hospital.

PCC is the Lead Centre for the region and admit children from 0-16 years, with specialties including:

- Cardiology
- Neurology
- Neurosurgery
- Trauma
- Orthopaedic Surgery
- Respiratory
- ENT
- General Surgery.

We are also able to provide Nitric Oxide Therapy, High Frequency Oscillation Ventilation and Peritoneal Dialysis, for which in-service training is provided.

Paediatric Intensive Care patients are nursed on a one nurse to one patient ratio. Paediatric High Dependency patients are nursed on a ratio of one nurse to two patients.

We have a partnership with Southampton University Hospitals PCC, forming SORT (Southampton Oxford Retrieval Team). This facilitates the transfer of critically ill children from referring hospitals back to Oxford from referring hospitals in the Thames Valley Region. The transport team consists of qualified medical and nursing staff, following British Paediatric Intensive Care Society guidelines, and offers the opportunity for other members of the nursing team to gain experience by accompanying them if appropriate.

Please contact us as soon as possible.

Contact details

Ward Manager

Abbie Smith: abigail.smith@ouh.nhs.uk

Ward: 01865 221267 or 01865 220632

Educators

Joanne Bartlett: joanne.bartlett@ouh.nhs.uk

Key learning opportunities

- Care of invasive and non-invasive ventilated patients
- Long-term tracheostomy ventilated patients
- Advanced renal and respiratory therapies
- Trauma, neurosurgical, spinal, craniofacial surgical patients
- Opportunities to spend time with Outreach
- Exposure to controlled emergency situations

Suggested spoke placements

- Operating theatres
- Outreach
- Physiotherapy
- SORT retrievals/transfers (as appropriate)
- Dietitian

Typical shift patterns

Day shifts 07:30 - 20:00

Night shifts 19:30 - 08:00

Outreach is covered every day and Friday to Monday nights.

Interdisciplinary learning

Children's nursing, paramedic students, trainee nurse associates, medical students.

Local education programmes

We provide student booklets to help guide your learning and development throughout your placement.

Useful reading for the placement

- Basic anatomy of the brain, respiratory and circulatory systems
- Understanding blood gases