

Student Placement information

Welcome to the Emergency Department at the John Radcliffe Hospital



Please contact the department as soon as possible, to allow time for a pre-placement visit and shift allocation. ED is a busy place, so please be patient, but someone will be able to help with any questions.

ED Sisters' Desk: 01865 857717

ED Sisters' Bleep: Via switchboard 4112

ED Placement Co-ordinator: Grace Fulkes grace.fulkes@ouh.nhs.uk

General information

Day shifts: 07:30- 20:00

Night shifts: 19:30- 08:00

- You have a total break time of one hour during your shift.

- During your placement you will be expected to work a range of shifts including days and nights.
- Please adhere to the OUH Uniform Policy.

ED areas

- **Minor Injuries**
Patients who present to ED with minor injuries or illness.
- **Urgent Care**
They see patients who would be suitable to be seen by their own GP and are likely to require minimal investigations.
- **Assessment area**
Patients who present to the department who require a trolley, and may not be ambulatory, are seen in this area.
- **Majors Chairs**
Chairs patients are patients who need advanced investigations but do not require a bed space.
- **Majors Beds**
Majors is where patients who need cardiac monitoring or are too unwell/frail to sit in a chair are seen.
- **Resus**
A nine-bedded clinical area with advanced equipment and a higher nurse/patient ratio. Resus cares for the most critically ill patients and pre-alerted emergencies.
- **Paediatric ED**
The Children's ED sees children from newborn until the day before their 16th birthday. We see everything that is seen in the rest of the department (majors and minors) in one place.

Key learning opportunities

The ED placement offers students the chance to care for diverse patient groups, presenting with various medical, surgical, traumatic and non-traumatic conditions. You will see anything and everything in ED so be prepared to learn a lot! It is a fantastic opportunity to gain valuable skills you will use throughout your career.

It is recognised that students can find the ED a daunting placement, by its very nature it is fast paced and demanding. To enhance your learning, it is better to be enthusiastic and get involved, this will maximise your chances of having interesting and valuable learning experiences. Try to ask as many questions as possible and utilise every moment whilst on clinical shift, all the team are willing to answer questions.



The John Radcliffe Hospital is a Major Trauma Centre (MTC). MTCs are part of a national network with specialist trauma teams ready to receive the most seriously injured patients. HEMS (Air Ambulance) can bring in patients from a huge variety of situations.

Suggested spoke placements

- Emergency nurse practitioners – these specialist nurses see and treat patients with minor injury and illness within ED
- Paediatric/Adult ED – there is the opportunity to gain experience in all areas of ED for all fields of nursing
- Chest pain specialist nurse
- Stroke specialist nurse
- ED psychiatric service (EDPS)
- OT/PT – we have a specialist team based within ED who aim to see patients soon after their arrival to ED (when appropriate), to ensure a safe and prompt discharge plan

Interdisciplinary learning

We work very closely with all members of the multidisciplinary team in ED, from all specialties across the Trust. This includes, doctors, specialist nurses, OT/PT, social work and the operational team to name a few!

Useful pre-reading for the placement

- Recognition and knowledge of sepsis and the “sepsis 6”
- Recognition and knowledge of signs and symptoms of a stroke
- Anatomy and physiology
- Textbook of Adult Emergency Medicine