

Student Placement information

Haemodialysis Units

Haemodialysis is a high technical skill area in a busy outpatient setting. Our haemodialysis units provide renal replacement therapy for both outpatients and inpatients. The Oxford units are based at the Churchill Hospital and the staff also provide dialysis treatments for patients at the JR who are too unstable to transfer.

There is also an out-of-hours on-call service for emergencies. Due to the time pressured nature of the treatments, our nurses excel at time management. Assessment skills are also strong, our staff constantly assess patients' health status and adapt treatments and care plans to meet complex and sometimes challenging care needs. During your placement you will have the opportunity to learn some of these technical skills so that you can integrate into the team.

It is during the quieter times, when patients are connected to treatment, that communication, medication administration and care planning can be practised. These times are also fantastic opportunities to speak to patients about their experiences to gain insight into what it is like living with chronic kidney disease. Haemodialysis provides ample opportunity to build therapeutic relationships with patients and their carers, and gives students the chance to take the lead in promoting patient education and empowerment.

On first appearance, haemodialysis may appear to be too specialised an area for student learning, however you will see that there are lots of opportunities to practice and hone your proficiencies/competencies. In fact it provides more opportunity for self-directed learning than any other area this is perfect for building up your portfolio of evidence.

The haemodialysis units have specific resources to aid you with self-directed experiences and you are recommended to use these during your experience here.

Oxford Kidney Unit has seven haemodialysis units providing patients with treatment across six counties.

The units are:

- Oxford Main Unit, Churchill Hospital
- Oxford Tarver Unit, Churchill Hospital
- Banbury, Horton General Hospital
- High Wycombe
- Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury
- Milton Keynes
- Swindon

Please make contact with the placement as soon as possible.

The best time to call is 10:00 - 11:00 and 14:00 - 16:00

- Main Unit: 01865 225807
- Tarver: 01865 225695
- Swindon: 01908 605286
- Milton Keynes: 01908 996496
- Horton: 01295 229811
- High Wycombe: 01494 426347
- Stoke Mandeville: 01296 316996

Key learning opportunities during the placement

- CKD and management of long-term conditions
- Understanding biochemistry and haematology results
- Acutely unwell inpatients
- Fluid assessment
- Home haemodialysis
- Shared care (patient empowerment)
- Infection control
- Managing concerns and complaints
- Delegation
- Time management
- Escalation of care and inter-professional working

Suggested spoke placements

- Renal Day Case
- Renal Ward
- Renal Specialist Team – Access Team, Renal Pre-dialysis Team, Renal Bone and Mineral Disease
- Peritoneal Dialysis Unit
- Urology Triage and Outpatients
- Transplant Ward
- Transplant Specialist Nurses

Typical shift patterns, days department is open

Monday to Saturday (early, late and long day shifts)

Interdisciplinary learning

A dedicated and knowledgeable team of nurses works closely with the medical team, pharmacists, dietitians, physiotherapists and psychologists, to provide a holistic approach to delivering specialist patient care.

Local education programmes

SuWOn Student Academy

Useful reading for the placement

www.thinkkidneys.nhs.uk

www.kidneyresearchuk.org

www.kidneycareuk.org

www.kidney.org.uk