

Student Placement information

Cardiac Angiography Suite

Welcome to CAS. We hope you enjoy working and learning here and you settle in and feel supported throughout your placement.

CAS is a cardiac medical interventional day unit which comprises 5 Cardiac Cath Labs; an anaesthetic / treatment room; a 16 bedded Day Unit; a 4 bedded Assessment Area with an attached TOE / treatment room.

CAS looks after patients who are coming in for interventional cardiology investigations, treatments, or procedures. These include angiography and stent implantation, transoesophageal echocardiograms, cardioversion, pacemaker and defibrillator implantation, Electrophysiology & Ablation, Trans Aortic Valve Implantation, and many other procedures.

We also offer a 24hr heart attack service, where patients are brought in by the Ambulance Service straight for treatment, without the need to attend the Emergency Department. We are proud to announce that we have the quickest (999) call to treatment time in the UK.

We were once all pre-registration student nurses and new to CAS. We understand if you feel a bit lost and overwhelmed to start with. Your practice supervisors, buddies, clinical educators, PDN, Sister and CAS nurses will help you to settle in. Feel free to approach anyone if you have questions or would like support.

We hope that you will enjoy working with us and gaining knowledge & experience in cardiac patient care and the procedures that these patients are having.

What you need to know

Please contact the **CAS PDN** as soon as possible- the best time to call the PDN is Monday – Thursday mornings. Below is a list of who's who and how to contact them.

CAS Sister Sphiwe Mguni

sphiwe.mguni@ouh.nhs.uk

01865 572 613

CAS Practice Development Nurse (PDN) Rosy Owen

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CAS Clinical Educators Magnolia Orellan and Lucina Nyahora

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01865 857 745 bl. 4386

CAS is located on Level -1 of the Oxford Heart Centre in the John Radcliffe Hospital. Access is either through the main hospital then via the Heart Centre lifts to level -1 or you can access it from the outside. The pedestrian entrance is up the hill in between the West Wing / Children's Centre and the A&E, just after the bike park on your left.

Information about the placement

The Cardiac Angiography Suite is open 0700 hrs. - 2100 hrs. Monday to Friday and performs an urgent list on Saturdays.

Staff work nine hours 20 minutes per day during a 4-day week: you will therefore have one day off each week (in addition to weekends). Staff receive a 15-minute coffee break (paid) and a 40-minute lunch break (unpaid).

Day shifts in the Catheter Labs: 08:00-18:00.

If you are working in the ward areas within CAS, shift patterns include:

Early shifts: 07:00- 17:00 (day unit / assessment area) or 08:00-18:00 (labs / AVIC)

Late shifts: 11:00- 21:00

All shifts in the Cardiac Angiography Suite involve the integration of all grades of staff working together to promote a high standard of nursing care through a varied skill mix.

The CAS team is made up of doctors (Consultants, Registrars, Fellows, FY1s and 2s), nurses (Sister, Practice Development Nurse, Junior Sisters / Charge nurses, Clinical Educators, Band 5 RNs), Assistant Practitioners and Clinical Support Workers as well as Advanced Nurse Practitioners, who often work in, with and around our department. There are also cardiac physiologists and radiographers, who work in the cath lab procedures, as well as around the department and the rest of the hospital.

Also in the CAS team are our supplies officer and assistant Supplies Officers; our housekeeper, porters and our ward clerks / administrators.

We also work with a wider group of health care professionals, such as nurse specialists, transport services, pharmacists, cardiac rehabilitation team, research nurses, cardiothoracic surgical team etc.

What we expect from you

We expect you to arrive on time for planned shifts and any other activity identified by your mentor or the delegated supervisor.

We expect you to ensure your mentors are aware of your learning outcomes for the placement and specific learning needs.

We expect you to be proactive in your own learning showing an interest and asking questions.

We expect you to use down time productively by chatting to patients; researching / learning topics that you have seen / experienced; asking the nursing team how you can help / contribute; contributing to the daily cleaning / tidying; asking questions; seeking opportunities for teaching sessions etc.

We expect you to act in a professional manner.

We expect you to dress in accordance with your college/university uniform policy and OUH Trust guidelines. You should inform your Practice Supervisor, PDN or clinical Educator if you are unwell and not able to attend your placement. The process for how to do this will be covered on your local induction to the ward and is in the Student Information Pack.

We expect you to always maintain and respect confidentiality. This applies to patients, their records and discussions between you and your mentor.

We expect good communication and respect from you.

We expect you to abide by Trust Policies.

We expect you to have revised cardiac Anatomy and Physiology and some of the common cardiac medications and conditions. If you are hungry to learn then we can't wait to teach you all we know!

If you have any concerns regarding your placement, please raise them with your practice supervisors. However, if this is not possible, please chat to your Clinical Educators, PDN or the CAS Sister.

Key Learning Opportunities during the Placement

You would be based in the Cardiac Day Unit as your hub placement and would be doing the following.

- Developing a deeper understanding of cardiac anatomy and physiology
- Taking an ECG and understanding the basics of ECG analysis
- Vital Signs Measurement
- Learning how to assess the patient's peripheral circulation and arterial puncture / wound
- Planning, Implementing and Evaluating Care
- Getting to know the Guidelines and evidence that underpin Cardiac Medicine
- Observing and understanding ANTT and blood tests (including when and why they are done).
- Learning about the various cardiac conditions and their management.
- Learning about the main cardiac medications
- Learning about the ABCDE approach to assessing deteriorating patients
- Learning about the cardiology interventional procedures done in CAS and how to care for them pre- and post-procedure and manage complications
- Learning about TOE, its indication, nursing care and some basic interpretation skills
- Learning about conscious (heavy) sedation in the cath lab and its nursing implications
- Observing the procedures in the cath lab and learning about the circulating nurse and scrub nurse roles, as well as the roles of the cath lab MDT

- Observing a Primary PCI in the event of an out of hospital heart attack and care of the emergency and (possibly) cardiac arrest patient.
- Becoming familiar with the documentation and terminology used in cardiology.
- Learning how to carry out a discharge chat and provide patient education and advice
- X-ray and fluoroscopy techniques and principles
- Renal function and its connection to the heart
- Renal injury and failure
- Observing consent procedures
- Observing and helping in Direct Current Cardioversion

Suggested Spoke Placements

You might want to spend time in the following areas / teams to broaden / deepen your knowledge and experiences of cardiac patient care. Discuss with your Practice Supervisor / Assessor which of these you might be interested in so that a spoke placement can be arranged.

- Cardiology Ward to observe medication rounds; care of patients being treated for heart failure, pericarditis / endocarditis, ACS, dysrhythmia
- Coronary Care Unit to observe care of acutely ill cardiac patients needing level 2 support
- Cardiothoracic Theatres to observe CABG, valve, and thoracic operations
- Cardiac Rehabilitation to develop an understanding of risk factor modification, patient education and follow up care post PCI / CABG
- Cardiac Pre-assessment to develop an understanding of assessing the patient's history, symptoms, medication, and risk factors pre-procedure and observe patient education and preparation pre-procedure
- Chest Pain Clinic to develop an understanding of how cardiac symptom assessment, diagnosis and diagnostic tests such as Echo and Exercise Treadmill Tests
- Cardiology Advanced Nurse Practitioners to develop an understanding of this advanced nurse role and how they assess, triage, diagnose and refer cardiology patients around the wider hospital
- Cardiac Research Nurses to develop an understanding of the role of the nurse in research trials; the role of research in cardiology; and an insight into this specialist role
- Other Specialist Nurse Practitioners such as Heart Failure Nurses; Pulmonary Hypertension Nurses; Congenital Cardiac Diseases Nurses; TAVI nurse etc.
- Pacing and Devices clinic to gain a deeper insight into devices and how they are managed and surveilled by our specialist team.

Interdisciplinary Learning

As well as learning from your pre-registration nursing colleagues and our CAS nursing team, you would also be learning from the following health care professionals:

- Doctors
- Advanced Nurse Practitioners & Specialists

- Cardiac Physiologists
- Radiographers
- Pharmacists
- PDNs

There are opportunities on this placement for the student to have experience of working with other client groups, to meet EU Directives (Adult students only): there are opportunities to work with mental health and learning disability on this placement, depending on the patients that are on the unit at that time. The floor above cardiology is the maternity unit which students may want to spend a day with

We support a range of different professions and learners here in CAS:

- Clinical Physiology and Cardiac Physiology Students
- Student Radiographers
- Medical Students
- Work Experience Students
- Masters Level Students (whilst working in post)
- Post-registration course students (whilst working in post)
- Open University students

The Oxford Heart Centre, as well as CAS, offer a range of in-house courses, sessions and educational programs to tap into, which also provide a rich, varied learning environment.

- In house Cardiothoracic Course
- In house Critical Care Course
- In house ECG Course
 - Short, informal, or bitesize CAS teaching sessions
 - ECG basics and leads / Arrhythmias / Conduction Blocks / ACS and MI
 - ACS and MI and their management
 - Common cardiac medications
 - Diabetic care of the cardiac patients
 - Complications and their management
 - Angiograms and PCI
 - CTOs
 - Care of the deteriorating patient
 - TAVI and BAVs
 - Pacing and Pacemakers
 - Cardioversion and Atrial Tachyarrhythmias
 - Pulmonary Hypertension
 - Cardiac Anatomy and physiology
- Risk factors for Heart Disease
- Acute and Chronic Heart Failure
- And many more...

- Human Factors and Simulation Training
- Leadership and communication workshops
- Recognition of the Acutely Ill Patient
- Equipment training (TR bands, Femostops, Helix Devices etc.)

Useful Reading for this Placement

The following websites, textbooks and journals would be very useful in preparing you for this learning environment:

- Life in the Fast Lane (Website)
- The Oxford Handbook of Cardiology 3rd Ed (textbook)
- ESC Clinical Practice Guidelines (Website)
- British Journal of Cardiac Nursing (Journal)
- The ECG Made Easy (textbook)
- ECGpedia (website)