

## **Student Placement information**

### **Haematology Ward, Churchill Hospital**

In our ward we provide care for patients with a range of haematological conditions and offer support from complications of systemic anti-cancer treatment (chemotherapy).

We deliver a variety of services from Bone Marrow Transplants to assistance towards the end of life.

We are a multidisciplinary team consisting of doctors, nurses, dietitians, nursing assistants and many more, and we are very supportive to each other.

We are very focused on support, looking after students and helping them to reach their objectives. We will provide each student with a Practice Assessor and two Practice Supervisors in order to make the most out of their placement. We can also organise spokes to other areas within the directorate to broaden experiences.

We look for students to be enthusiastic about nursing and demonstrate responsibility for their learning.

### **Contacting the placement**

Please contact the ward at least two weeks before the start of the placement.

#### **Key contacts**

Francesca Baldassa, Clinical Educator and Deputy Sister: [francesca.baldassa@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:francesca.baldassa@ouh.nhs.uk)

Claudia Costa, Ward Manager: [claudia.costa@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:claudia.costa@ouh.nhs.uk)

### **Information about your placement**

The Clinical Haematology Ward provides inpatient care. The ward has the capacity to bed 25 patients with 15 side rooms, some of which provide pressurised air. The remaining beds are arranged in two-bedded bays. The main groups of diseases we treat are Leukaemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma, although we provide care for all haematological disorders. The Haematology Ward is part of a wider service for Haematology patients. Our patients have complex health needs and require support from a variety of health care professionals. It is important for us to understand the roles so we can better understand the experiences of our patients.

Here follows a list, which is not exhaustive by any means.

- Oncology-Haematology Triage Assessment Unit
- Dietetics
- Pharmacy
- Line Insertion Service
- Total Parenteral Nutrition Team,
- Palliative Care Team
- Sobell House (end of life hospice)
- Day Treatment Unit

- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Intensive Care Outreach Service
- National Blood Service and the Apheresis Team
- Maggie's Centre (financial advice as well as a variety of services for cancer patients).

### **Key learning opportunities in the area**

Haematology is a complex and fascinating area. Even though considered a very specific clinical area, students will find many learning opportunities to build core skills and competencies, alongside drug knowledge and nursing assessment skills. We are very proud of our professional team and student will certainly feel part of it, helping them building team-work abilities.

### **Spoke placements**

- Oncology Ward
- Triage Assessment Unit
- Early Phase Clinical Trials Unit
- Bone Marrow Clinic
- Day Treatment Unit
- Therapists
- Dietitian
- Discharge Co-ordinator
- Maggie's Centre

### **Typical shift patterns**

- Long Day (LD): 07:30 - 20:00
- Night (N): 19:30 - 8:00
- Early (E): 07:30 - 14:30
- Late (L): 14:00 - 20:00

### **Local education programmes in the area**

Local teaching sessions arranged weekly/monthly

### **Useful reading for the placement**

The [Bloodwise website](#) gives a great overview of leukemia and lymphomas and lots of information booklets (patient-focused but helpful for a clear introduction to Haematology). Also available on the website is an online free training module aimed at new starters for Haematology; the user will need to register an email to access the course – please visit [Blood cancer UK](#).

[NICE Guidance](#) – many of the patients we treat on Haematology are neutropenic (neutrophils are a type of white blood cell, having  $0.5 \times 10^9$  per liter or less means the patient is neutropenic) this guide explains what to do if a patient who is neutropenic has a temperature of 37.5 or above.

The [NSSG website](#) contains care plans and protocols the nurses from the ward will use for administration of chemotherapy and stem cell transplants. There are also care plans available for central venous access, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting, nutrition and mucositis.