

Student Placement information

Welcome to the Horton Day Case Unit

The Day Case Unit is a unique place to gain nursing experience due to the variety of patients we care for. We are divided into Surgery and Infusions and you will be able to work in both areas.

We have 14 beds dedicated to Surgery and 16 spaces for Infusions; in addition, we have a dedicated area for Ophthalmology patients which can take anything from 8-16 patients a day.

The surgery you will see includes Endocrine, General, Colorectal, Urology, Breast, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmology, Plastic, Vascular Access and ENT.

Within Infusions you will meet patients receiving biological drugs for Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) and patients attending for blood transfusions, venesections, paracentesis and PICC line care. Each day offers different learning opportunities.

Please telephone the Ward Manager on 01295 229787 between 08:00 and 17:00 to organise a placement visit.

Key Learning Opportunities

Day Case provides an excellent place to develop time management and prioritisation skills as our surgery runs throughout the day and overlaps often occur between morning discharges and afternoon admissions.

The Infusions department is constantly busy as patients arrive every 30 minutes. The duration of the patient's stay is dependent upon the type of infusion; some can take 15 minutes whereas others can be over two hours.

Within this placement you will learn how to admit and prepare a patient for surgery and care for them in the post-operative period. Each specialty we deal with requires different preparation and after care all while taking into account each patient's unique medical needs.

There is an opportunity to learn more about anatomy and physiology as students can attend theatre to observe surgery.

You will also learn about the different types of infusions for patients with IBD and also the treatment of Oncology, Haematology and Cardiology patients with blood transfusions.

You will become familiar with the drugs we use to manage post-operative pain and nausea. Knowing what drug to use and when will be helpful in practising decision-making skills.

Similarly it will aid in communication skills development as it is an important factor when assessing a patient.

Finally, as we work closely with Consultants and Anaesthetists, you will have ample opportunity to develop your communication and interpersonal skills.

Suggested spoke placements

During your placement you will be able to spend time in Pre-Operative Assessment in order to learn about the preparation required before a patient even reaches Day Case. You can also follow a patient from Day Case, to the Anaesthetic room, through Surgery and then Recovery and back to Day Case to give you a better understanding of why we prepare the way we do and how we look after patients post operatively. There are also opportunities to visit other departments that support our services such as the Brodey Centre (Oncology). As well as this our IBD specialist nurses are onsite and will be happy to share their knowledge with you.

Shift Time

Monday to Friday, Early shift 07:30 - 17:30, Late Shift 11:00 - 20:30 (the Late Shift will eventually finish at 22:00 as we are due to extend our operating time).

Interdisciplinary learning

You will be able to work with Surgeons, Anaesthetists, Theatre Nurses and our Specialist IBD Nurses.

Local education programmes

As a team, we share our learning through teaching sessions organised within the unit. We also have a Practice Development Nurse who keeps us up to date with our educational needs.

Useful reading for the placement

Useful information can be found on the [British Association of Day Surgery](#) website; and [surgery guidelines](#).

We hope you enjoy your placement on our small but busy unit.