

Safe & compassionate care,

every time

Cardiac and stroke nursing

Our cardiac and stroke teams are part of the division of integrated medicine and at Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust we provide some of the best services in our region with one of the highest thrombolysis rates in the country.

We lead the way in treating stroke and cardiac patients. Based at Wycombe Hospital, we have three specialist units; the cardiac and stroke receiving unit (CSRU), the hyper acute stroke unit (HASU) and the acute and rehabilitation stroke unit.

The dedicated units allow us to offer 24/7 specialist stroke care to the people of Buckinghamshire and East Berkshire in an environment which is specifically planned around their condition.

The Cardiac and Stroke Receiving Unit

The cardiac and stroke receiving unit (CSRU) is an 8-bedded unit which specialises in the rapid assessment of patients with suspected stroke and cardiac needs. The stroke nurse on duty and the stroke physician on call will give thrombolysis treatment to patients where appropriate. Stroke patients are transferred from CSRU to our hyper acute stroke unit (HASU) within 4 hours for further monitoring.

Our more experienced nurses will have an opportunity to work in the CSRU, supported by the stroke nurse on duty.

It provides an excellent opportunity to witness the stroke pathway and assist with thrombolysis and clot retrieval. You will also get the opportunity to nurse cardiac patients as well.



The Hyper Acute Stroke Unit

Ward 8 is an 8-bedded hyper acute stroke unit (HASU) which provides specialist stroke assessment in monitored beds 24/7 for all suspected stroke patients. We also provide urgent scanning and thrombolysis within 30 minutes of arrival for appropriate patients.

As a nurse on HASU you will be nursing acute stroke patients, who will be on a cardiac monitor and requiring neurological observations. You will be able to recognise any signs of deterioration and act appropriately.

This ward has a ratio of approximately one nurse to four level 2 patients and is supported by a stroke nurse on duty and stroke consultant on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The Acute and Rehabilitation Stroke Unit

Ward 9 is an 22-bedded acute stroke unit (ASU) where patients continue with their stroke care and rehabilitation. Patients are moved from HASU to ward 9 at around 72 hours post admission to continue their rehabilitation. Our unit offers the opportunity to form a deeper relationship and bond with the longer-term patients. You will find working here very rewarding as you are often able to witness huge improvements in your patients' outcomes.

It is an ideal ward for a newly qualified nurse wishing to develop mentorship and leadership roles including becoming

link nurses for a particular area of interest. Whilst working on Ward 9 you will work alongside all members of the multi-disciplinary team and gain insight into how the therapists work.

How we support our nurses

We offer a year-long preceptorship to all newly qualified nurses who will also have their own named mentor. All staff are well supported by a team of experienced sisters, stroke specialist nurses, research nurses and the medical team.

You will have an opportunity to rotate through the wards and work with our more experienced nurses. There are regular teaching sessions on our wards which all staff are encouraged to attend.

We are a very supportive team and work well together and you will have good support from your colleagues. You will find nursing with us both stimulating and rewarding.



Be the future