

Safe & compassionate care,

every time

Emergency nursing

Emergency nursing is part of the division of integrated medicine. It is dynamic, fast-paced and varied, sometimes working with patients who have not yet had a diagnosis so the cause of their problem is unknown. At Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust we have recently invested in our emergency department and are very proud of our state of the art equipment and working environment.

The way we handle our patients is at the forefront of emergency patient care. Alongside our A&E department we operate a Clinical Decisions Unit (CDU), Acute Medicines Unit (AMU) and Short Stay Ward (SSW) all working together to ensure our patients are seen quickly by the right clinicians at the right time.

If you're newly qualified, emergency nursing is a great place to start your career. It will allow you to consolidate the skills you have learnt as a student as well as quickly learning extended skills, regularly putting them into practice. Dealing with such a variety of patient, illness and injury on a daily basis is a unique and rewarding experience.

Emergency Department

We see around 80,000 patients every year in our emergency department (ED) and we never know what is coming through the doors: you might be dealing with a life-threatening major trauma, a frail elderly patient or a marble up a nose. It is a busy and non-stop place to work so you'll need to be able to manage a high turnover of patients with confidence and a calm approach. It helps if you enjoy a bit of excitement and an adrenaline rush too.

Clinical Decisions Unit

The clinical decisions unit (CDU) supports the ED. Medical, nursing and therapy staff assess, investigate and treat patients within 24 hours of their arrival before discharging them or admitting them to hospital if necessary. As with the ED, you will encounter numerous different conditions and a high turnover of patients. Nursing in the CDU means needing to be adaptable to change, a quick-thinker and having a passion for treating patients quickly, compassionately and safely.



Acute Medicine Unit

The Acute Medicine Unit (AMU) is a 23-bedded assessment area with two additional rooms for ambulatory patients. We accept patients directly from A&E or from GP referrals. Nurses working on the AMU need to demonstrate a full range of clinical skills and will conduct initial triage and assessment in conjunction with the medical teams. Discharge planning and supporting families are important aspects of the role and there is a strong focus on working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

Short Stay Ward

The Short Stay Ward (SSW) is a 22-bedded ward which supports the AMU with patient flow. Patients stay with us for a maximum of 72 hours and we work alongside acute care physicians and their teams. As with the AMU, discharge planning is a key part of the job.

How we support our nurses

The emergency department is highly motivated, welcoming to new joiners and keen to develop our staff. You'll be exposed to all types of medical emergencies providing a wealth of experience that will give you a superb grounding for your future career.

We offer rotational posts between A&E, CDU, AMU and SSW to give you excellent opportunities to experience the whole emergency care pathway.

We are committed to providing both newly-qualified and experienced nurses with relevant training opportunities that will enhance acute assessment skills and extended roles which are essential to provide our service and maintain high-quality patient care.

As part of our team you will receive an annual appraisal and regular individual and group supervision. Our ward sisters will work with you to identify how you want to develop your skills and with the A&E practice development team who will help design your individual training and development plan.




Be the future