

Safe & compassionate care,

every time

Emergency surgery and orthopaedics

Emergency surgery and orthopaedics is part of the division of surgery and critical care. Based at Stoke Mandeville Hospital it offers a great deal of variety both in terms of the patients we see, the nursing skills we use and the experience it can provide.

We are a department with a passion for providing excellent patient care and putting the patient at the centre of everything we do.

Throughout our wards you will be part of a multi-disciplinary team, for example in trauma and orthopaedics you will work extensively alongside occupational therapists and physiotherapists and where we care for elderly patients you could be working with our specialist dementia or medicine for older people teams.

We are proud to host two specialist centres for burns and plastic surgery that provide services for a population of 1.5million people.

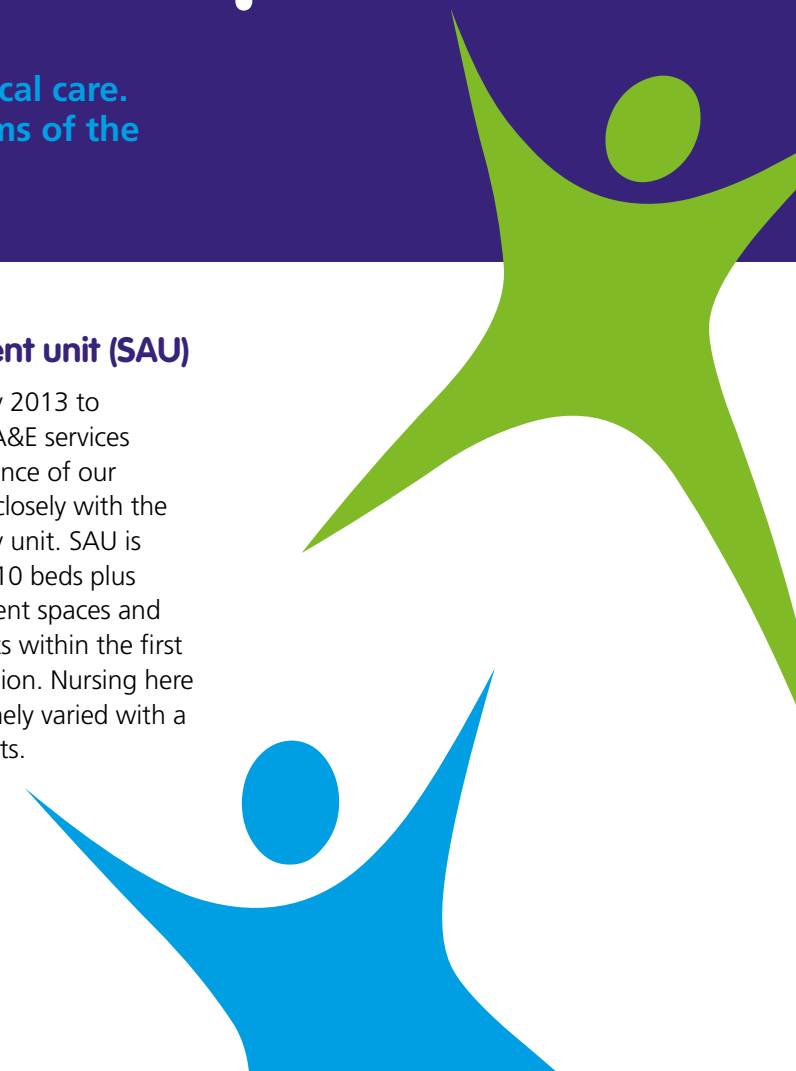
Trauma and orthopaedics

In trauma and orthopaedics (T&O) we care for a variety of patients from older people with hip fractures to casualties of road traffic accidents or patients with spinal injuries. Our patients tend to have injuries sustained in emergency events so we are often managing complex injuries. This makes T&O an excellent place for a newly qualified nurse to consolidate their training and gain experience.

In T&O you will be part of a multi-disciplinary team working alongside occupational therapists, physiotherapists and our award-winning fracture liaison service.

Surgical assessment unit (SAU)

Our SAU opened in May 2013 to relieve pressure on our A&E services and improve the experience of our patients. We also work closely with the early pregnancy advisory unit. SAU is an innovative unit with 10 beds plus an additional 8 assessment spaces and provides care for patients within the first 24 hours of their admission. Nursing here is fast-paced and extremely varied with a quick turnover of patients.



Surgical floor

Wards 16a and 16b make up our surgical floor. Ward 16a is the acute general surgical ward where, in the main, we care for colorectal emergencies, vascular emergencies and gastro-intestinal emergencies. Many of our patients come to us from the intensive care or high dependency units so nursing with us provides the opportunity to look after acutely unwell patients in a supportive environment. It is a particularly good grounding for nurses who may be interested in specialising in critical care nursing.

On ward 16b we provide care for gynaecology, some ophthalmology patients and it is where the regional plastic surgery centre is located. The unique nature of this ward means a variety of patients with a variety of clinical needs; from breast reconstruction to gynaecology day surgery. It is therefore an ideal place to gain both all-round and more specialist experience. For newly qualified nurses it can be the place which helps you decide where you want to take your career.



How we support our nurses

In addition to the Trust's induction and preceptorship programme we are committed to encouraging further study and career progression. For example, all nurses on our surgical floor undergo extended skills training such as patient controlled analgesia (PCA) and epidural management. We also encourage attendance at external courses on plastic surgery and acute surgical nursing. We currently provide rotational opportunities for nurses to gain experience in the outpatient plastics dressing clinic and are identifying rotational opportunities through all surgical specialities.

Both newly qualified nurses and experienced nurses are supported in their career development by our practice development nurses. You may want to begin your career with us to gain experience in a variety of areas before you specialise, or you may want to progress your career in your chosen specialty. Either way, we will support your ambitions and work with you to make them a reality.

We are a friendly and supportive team. There is a band 7 nurse in all areas to provide support to more junior members of staff. We hold regular ward meetings to ensure all our teams are involved in Trust-wide initiatives, our senior staff carry out weekly ward walk arounds and operate an open-door policy for their teams.




Be the future