

We welcome students and want you to feel free to discuss any aspect of your short stay with us, whether it is patient care or general management of the department.

The nurses in pre-assessment constantly try to update their knowledge to improve the pathways for patients who have elected to undergo a surgical procedure under general anaesthetic, spinal anaesthetic +/- intravenous sedation.

Discussion with students promotes evaluation of both our knowledge base and our ideals. You will have the opportunity within the timetable of the week to attend the MRSA screening room.

Here you will be able to identify why this system has been set up and the benefits to patient care.

There will be the opportunity to discuss the procedure for obtaining swabs for MRSA screening prior to admission.

Student nurses will also have the opportunity to participate in obtaining swabs, under supervision, to either learn or update current knowledge.

Your mentor will be able to discuss this system with you and how it makes practice a more streamlined pathway for both patient and nurse.

All gynaecology and ENT patients are pre-assessed via the nurse led system alongside some surgical patients. These are mainly those patients who have already signed their consent form in clinic.

If you need to practice any essential skills whilst in the department please feel free to discuss these with your mentor. We will work alongside you in order to provide you with a testimony to help your ward based mentor in decision making of skill achievement. In return, your mentors will ask you for feedback on their mentoring in order to provide evidence that they have met the standards for mentoring and for revalidation.

We request that all students please ensure that they bring their ongoing achievement record for adult branch year 2-3 with them. This will help your pathway mentor in knowing which of the 7 proficiencies you are working towards.

At the end of your week, please leave your mentor an evaluation sheet as to how you have found your weeks experience. This will help the mentors and LEM to reflect and act on any issues raised. This will assist them with their revalidation for the NMC when it is up for renewal. In return we will provide you with a testimony for your on-going achievement record. If you have any issues that you wish to discuss about your

placement in PAC please feel free to approach your mentor or LEM/sister of the unit whilst you are here then we can help resolve whatever the problem is.

We are approachable and flexible to the needs of students working and learning requirements – but we will follow university rules. Do not hesitate to ask any questions about the care pathway for any of the patients. There may be an opportunity to follow patients to other departments that are involved in the safe preparation of that individual. E.g. for an echo, vocal cord check or spirometry.

Ideally you will be asked to work from 9am – 5pm whilst on placement in pre-assessment clinic. Your working placement hours in Pre-assessment will be signed by your mentor in your on-going achievement record book.

If you choose to go and work in Theatre admissions unit for an insight visit, a staff nurse in TAU will mentor you for the day and show you how their system operates for safe preparation for general anaesthetic/spinal anaesthetic.

The structure of the weeks will be discussed on your first day. Ideally within your 2 weeks we will arrange 5 insight visits you to gain experience from.

There will be an opportunity to visit the following places for insight visits for either a full day or half a day.

The following places below have already agreed to take students for either a full or part of a day:

- Theatre admissions unit
- Audiology
- Suite 2 for vocal cord checks
- Colorectal nurses
- Waiting list
- Theatres – speak to sister Elizabeth Woolley in theatres
- Path labs for tour – speak to Christine Ainger on 2242
- Holywell ward – speak to Shelley Butler/Angela Innes
- Infection control
- Diabetic nurse – speak to Sarah
- Women's health unit – speak to Caroline Cook
- Cardiology department

This list can be added to as to meet the needs of the student.

On the last day of your placement you can arrange to meet your mentor for a discussion as to how you have found your learning time and structure of the weeks.

You will be allocated 2 mentors in pre-assessment which you can use for support at any time during your placement or whilst on insight visits.

Please ensure you get your attendance record signed on these visits.

Please feel free at any time to ask questions.

We are here to support you and give you the information that you need – so please talk to us and we will help you.

If you are off sick on any of your insight visit days you must inform the LEM of Pre-assessment or the nurse coordinating the shift along with the University.

Have a good 2 weeks!