Surgical Assessment Unit

Trust  
Ashford and St. Peter’s Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Address  
St Peter’s Hospital  
Guildford Road  
Chertsey  
Surrey

Postcode  
KT16 0PZ

Telephone Number  
01932 723941  01932 722932

Type of Placement  
Surgical Assessment

Profile of Area  
11 Short stay admission beds  
5 Assessment trolleys  
10 assessment chairs

Shift Patterns and Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Breaks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EARLY</td>
<td>7:15 – 14:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>LATE</td>
<td>13:15 – 20:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIGHT</td>
<td>19:30 – 07:45</td>
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Staff work a mixture of shifts, including nights and weekends.

Placement Requirements  
Contact the ward and arrange to visit at least 2 weeks prior to your start date. You can discuss any specific requests with the Nurse in Charge at this time. Students are encouraged to work alongside their mentor, for a minimum of 2 shifts a week.

Professional Behaviour  
You must adhere to the uniform policy at all times whilst on placement, paying special attention to hair, nails and jewellery. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on site

Refreshment Facilities  
See our webpages

Public Transport  
See our webpages

Car Parking  
Parking permits / swipe cards will be arranged during Locality Induction in Year 1
Welcome to your placement on Surgical Assessment Unit at St. Peter’s Hospital. We hope that you will find your time with us both educational and enjoyable.

This pack has been developed to help prepare for your placement with us, and to form part of your induction.

We suggest you read this as soon as you know are coming to Surgical Assessment Unit, print it out and do as much as you can to prepare beforehand. Don’t forget to bring it with you on your first day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mentor Name(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Mentor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ward Sister / Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Link Tutor</td>
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Trust Information

Ashford and St. Peter’s Hospitals NHS Trust manages two sites - Ashford Hospital in Middlesex and St. Peter’s Hospital in Chertsey, Surrey.
The Trust as a whole provides acute hospital services to a large and diverse population, with a catchment of around 450,000 stretching from West Hounslow to Woking across the Boroughs of Hounslow, Spelthorne, Elmbridge, Runnymede and Woking

Philosophy of Care

We aim to treat every patient as an individual

The care patients/relatives receive will be safe, provided by skilled healthcare professionals who whilst ensuring patient confidentiality will openly communicate effectively with both patient and relative

The care provided will be of a high standard and provided by professionals in a warm and friendly atmosphere

Religious and cultural beliefs will be promoted by all staff involved in care giving
Advice, support and counselling and health education will be provided to help patients and their families obtain the most from their stay with us in preparation for discharge.

**Aims of Service**
To provide and to deliver high standards and best care for our patients within the unit, providing Multi-disciplinary team working to enable patients to have a fluent transient assessment period enabling an efficient service in treatment.

**Team members**
Students will work with and alongside all the members of the nursing team, including Ward Manager, Deputy Sister / Charge Nurse, Senior Staff Nurse, Staff Nurse, Health Care Assistant, Medical Support Worker, and the Ward Clerk.

There are a variety of other healthcare professionals who care for patients on SAU Ward. These include the Consultants and their medical team, Discharge coordinators, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Pharmacists, and Dieticians.

**Staff Development**

**Link Nurses**
Surgical Assessment Unit supports Link Nurse; the role is to ensure that all members of the team are aware of current practice and policies within their designated role. The link nurse attends regular meetings to update their knowledge and also influence future practice through contributing to Trust policy development. You should find out who the Link Nurse is Surgical Assessment Unit for the following specialities:
- Nutrition
- Infection Control
- Wound Care
- Palliative Care
- Continence
- Diabetes
- Minimal Handling
- Mentoring
- Falls

**Professional Development**
Nursing staff Surgical Assessment Unit are able to undertake continuing professional development in care areas such Venepuncture and cannulation, mentorship, preceptorship.

**Daily Routine**
Handover - The start of a shift begins with ‘handover’ or ‘report’ of patient information, this promotes continuity of care and allows staff to review and plan care. All patients are discussed with the nurse in charge and therapists.

Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meetings

Protected Meal times
Due to the nature of the workload on the Surgical Assessment Unit the protected meal times are not enforced as patients are continuously arriving for assessment.

Referral Criteria/ Admission methods
Patients are admitted to Surgical Assessment Unit via a number of different routes: from A&E, GP admissions, after attending an outpatient’s clinic, transferred from another hospital and virtual ward patients

Visiting Times
2.30-4pm and 6-8 pm daily (there is flexibility, with prior arrangement).

Teaching Opportunities

Variety of clinical skills
Consultant rounds
Holistic care of the patient undergoing minor surgery
Viewing of operations
Management of surgical emergencies
Dressings and wound management
Management of a bay of patients

Policies & Procedures

You will need to access and read the following policies as part of your induction; they are located on the Hospital Intranet.
Fire, Health and Safety, Medicine Management, Minimal Handling, Infection Control
Confidentiality, Missing Patient, Falls.

Other information that will be given on Day 1 of placement
Professional development resource file.
Student induction booklet / welcome to Surgical Assessment Unit booklet.

Suggested pre placement reading
Care of the surgical patient
Assessment skills
Management of deteriorating patients
Wound management
Pressure areas

Learning Resources:
Access to Trust intranet and internet is available on the Ward.
Hospital Library is on site.