

# Learning Environment



**SDEC**

# Learner Booklet

## Welcome

We would like to warmly welcome you to Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (LTHTR). Incorporated on the 1st of April 2005, LTHTR was the first trust in the county to be awarded “Teaching Hospitals” status.

We have created this pack as a useful resource to help you to settle in with us. The purpose of this booklet is to provide you with information to help you on your learning environment.

## About LTHTR

### We have three equally important strategic aims:

- To provide outstanding and sustainable healthcare to our local communities
- To offer a range of high-quality specialist services to patients in Lancashire and South Cumbria
- To drive health innovation through world class education, training and research

We provide a range of Hospital based health services for adults and children and cover a range of specialities. These include cancer services such as radiotherapy, drug therapies and surgery, disablement services such as artificial limbs and wheelchair provision. Other specialities include vascular, major trauma, renal, neurosurgery and neurology including brain surgery and nervous system diseases.

### Our five core values:

- Being caring and compassionate
- Recognising individuality
- Seeking to involve
- Building team spirit
- Taking personal responsibility



We deliver care and treatment from three main facilities:

- Royal Preston Hospital
- Chorley and South Ribble Hospital
- Specialist Mobility and Rehabilitation Centre, Preston

In relation to car parking, please refer to your Induction to the Trust, for information regarding car parking. Additional information can be found on our Intranet page.

<https://legacy-intranet.lthtr.nhs.uk/car-parking-documents>



## Learning Environment

We would like to welcome you to your learning environment.

SDEC will provide you with learning opportunities both from experiences on the unit and through its SPOKE placements. Appropriate SPOKE placements are highlighted in this pack. The unit is fast paced, exciting and educational.

You will be supported throughout your time on SDEC by your practice assessor and practice supervisor and other highly skilled and experienced staff, who have plenty of knowledge to share with you. We know that this placement can be a daunting prospect but don't worry! We are all friendly and you will be looked after in your time here with us.

SDEC provides urgent assessment and treatment for patients who do not necessarily need an overnight stay in hospital. Patients can be referred from GP's, ED, NWS (Ambulance), medical wards or other community specialists.

Most importantly, SDEC is a team! And we all work together to make sure that all of our patients are safe and well cared for. You will be expected to assist in all aspects of this care. We work under the CliP model with our learners so you will care for patients throughout their journey under the supervision of a band qualified nurse.

There is lots to learn on SDEC so please ask as many questions as you want all the team are eager to help you learn and progress towards your nursing qualification.

### **Our ACP's**

Our fantastic Advanced Nurse Practitioners hold a Masters level in clinical practice. They have the freedom and authority to act, making autonomous decisions in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of patients.

They are a bridge between the medical and nursing team with a wealth of knowledge and experience.

All of them are really friendly and welcome any questions and teaching opportunities, so make sure to pick their brains whilst you're here with us on SDEC!

## **General Information**

SDEC has 5 trolley spaces, 6 recliners chairs, a side room and a waiting area.

On each shift there will be a nursing coordinator & a medical coordinator who will monitor the flow of the unit.

Each patient is assessed by either a nurse, senior health care assistant or student nurse upon their arrival to the unit.

Observations are generally done every 4 hours; however, this will be escalated according to patients NEWS.

However, any patients scoring on their NEWS should be escalated accordingly. Always make sure that you have informed the appropriate trained member of staff and that any patient with a NEWS of 5 and above have had an A-E assessment, parent team informed and CCO/Hospital at Night teams are informed.

CCO Bleep 3388

Hospital at Night Bleep 9090

## **Diet and Fluids**

Because of our high turnover of patients, we provide sandwiches to all patients at lunch time. If a patient is being admitted overnight into hospital, then a menu is completed and kitchen is informed on a patient by patient basis. Any special dietary requirements can be maintained by asking the kitchens to provide us with the menu needed for that patient e.g., Halal/Renal.

Hot/cold drinks are offered to the patient on arrival however there will be a tea trolley provided at lunch time and dinner time.

**Please make sure you document appropriately in the patients notes input and output.**

There are lockers available to staff where needed, just ask for details.

## **Abbreviations**

AAA- Abdominal Aortic Aneurism

ABG – Arterial Blood Gas

ABR – Await blood results

ACS – Acute Coronary Syndrome

ADL – Activities of Daily Living

AF – Atrial Fibrillation  
AKI – Acute Kidney Injury  
AP – Abdominal Pain  
CABG – Coronary Artery Bypass Graft  
C?C – Collapse ? cause  
CCF – Chronic Cardiac Failure  
CKD – Chronic Kidney Disease  
COPD – Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease  
CPAP – Continuous Positive Airway Pressure  
C&S – Culture and sensitivity  
DIB – Difficulty in Breathing  
DKA – Diabetic Ketoacidosis  
DNR – Do Not Resuscitate  
DM – Diabetes Mellitus  
DX- Diagnosis  
EP – Epigastric Pain  
FFP – Fresh Frozen Plasma  
FU- Follow up  
GFR – Glomerular Filtration Rate  
Hx – History  
I&D – Incision and Drainage  
LOC – Loss of Consciousness  
LP – Lumber Puncture  
LFT – Liver Function Test  
MI – Myocardial Infarction  
NAD – No Active Disease  
NBM – Nil by Mouth  
NSTEMI – Non-ST-elevation myocardial infarction  
OD- Overdose

PE- Pulmonary Embolism

PPM – Permanent Pacemaker

R/O – Rule out

RTC – Road Traffic Collision

RWT – Routine Ward Test

SOB – Short of Breath

STEMI- ST-elevation myocardial infarction

TURP – Transurethral Resection of Prostate

TFT- Thyroid Function Test

Tx- Treatment

### **Our shifts and routines**

After using the kitchen facilities, it is the responsibility of all staff to tidy up after themselves and to wash up anything used.

Your allocated practice assessor/supervisor will provide you with your shifts throughout your placement – any changes to these shifts must be authorised by either your practice assessor/supervisor or the nurse in charge.

#### Shift times & routines

As we have patients being admitted throughout the day each patient is dealt with on an individual basis. Our only timed routine is as follows:

#### Early Shift – 07:00- 15:00

Clean & Checks 07:00

ED Coordinator Meeting 08:00

Team Briefing (we like to call this a wrap wound) 09:00

#### Late Shift – 13:30- 19:30

Lunch 12pm

Tidy up and close 19:00-19:30

The majority of our staff do LD's shifts 07:00-19:30. This would require a makeup shift of either an early or late every 4 weeks.

### Useful Tips

To Bleep – dial 66 – Key in the contact number when asked – key in your phones 4 digit extension number.

For an outside line dial 9 and then the number you wish to call.

### Door Access

To have door access please speak one of the admin coordinators who will help you with this.

### **Sickness and Absence**

If you are ill or unable to come in to SDEC for any reason, then please call us and ask to speak to the nurse in charge on 2519. You need to make sure that you tell us when you are likely to be back in placement and keep us updated during your period of sickness. Please make sure that you also inform university and also email [learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk)

### **A-E Assessment**

Nurses gather all necessary information to assess a patient properly with the use of their clinical knowledge. A triage nurse uses their knowledge and skills to look at all aspects of the patient:-

- ✚ Translating the signs and symptoms that the patient is experiencing, they classify the risk to the patient into the right emergency scale.
- ✚ The use of psychological, interpersonal, verbal and non-verbal communicative signals aids in this classification to recognise normal or altered standards.
- ✚ Social and life contexts are also taken into account.

A triage nurse provides an early assessment of a patient to categorise the urgency of their complaint by gaining initial information:

- ✚ The presenting complaint
- ✚ Past medical history
- ✚ First set of observations
- ✚ Identify if the patient suffers with allergies



- ✚ Gain all relevant personal information (GP, emergency contact, weight, height, pregnancy, regular medications taking, social needs, alcohol excess)
- ✚ Fulfil any investigative or treatment needs e.g. IV fluids, ECG, bloods, MSU, cannulation, catheterisation, wound dressings etc.

If your patient has significant history and on critical medications e.g. epilepsy or Parkinson's disease – are they up to date with their medications and when are they next due to take them? Do they have them with them?

AF – on warfarin, do they have their yellow book with them? If not, they need it! They also need an INR check.

### **Inter-hospital Transfer**

Is the patient safe to transfer? Are you competent enough to transfer the patient? Are you capable of responding to an emergency (BLS) and summoning help? If you think not, don't be afraid to speak up!

During your time on the unit, your practice assessor will assess your competency for transfers. The overall responsibility for the patients transfer is that of the delegating nurse or practice assessor of the student nurse.

To be able to safely transfer a patient, make sure that you have basic information on that patient's condition and background. Always make sure that you report any problems to the nurse in charge.

Before you go, make sure that:

- ✚ The patient has been handed over and that the ward is expecting the patient
- ✚ You have their case notes and background notes
- ✚ The patient has a name band on.
- ✚ That the patients NEWS has been recently documented (within an hour of transfer if needed).
- ✚ Any o2 cylinder taken on transfer is at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.

## SBAR



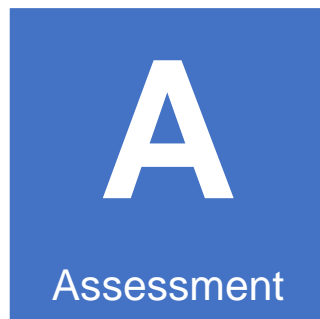
Why is the patient here? What is their diagnosis?

“My name is Katie, I need to hand over Harry Smith coming from EDU. He was admitted with CP and has been diagnosed with ACS”.



What is the patient's history?

“Harry has a past medical history of CCF, PVD, previous PE's, CABG”



What is his NEWS? BM's? Has he passed sufficient urine? What is the clinical impression? What have you done about this? Is the team aware of scoring? Are CCO involved?

“Harry has a NEWS of 1 as he has tachycardia at 100bpm. He has been given full ACS treatment and ECG's have been done”.



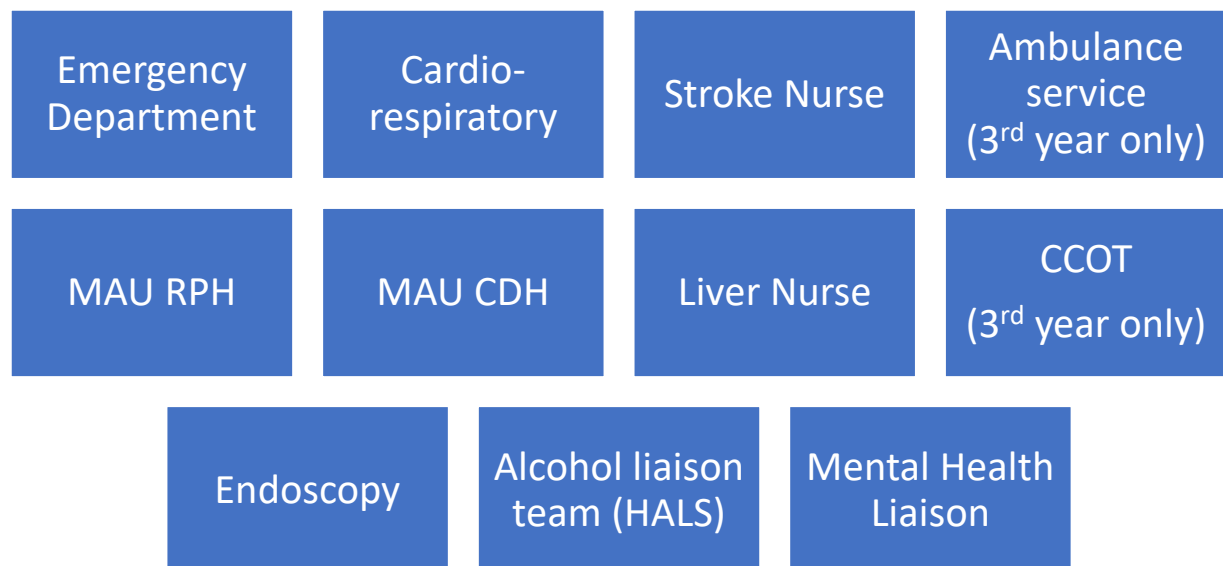
What do they need to do to carry on his treatment? Is there anything else that they need to know? (Hourly Catheter?, has the pt passed water? IVFluids, IVABX, SFBC, high falls risk, all care).

“Harry will need a repeat Trop at 13:00, he needs telemetry and further review tomorrow on the ward round. Harry also needs physio/OT as he may not be able to cope at home”.

## SPOKEs

There are lots of departments that SDEC works with which means plenty of learning opportunities. Before booking your SPOKE please plan this with you practice assessor, this will need to be documented on your off duty so that we know where you are.

# SDEC



## Induction

The Local Induction process will take place throughout the first week of your placement.

This will comprise of:

- Trust and department orientation, including housekeeping information
- Location of emergency equipment
- IT access
- Reading & acknowledgement of Mandatory Trust policies such as Health & Safety, Fire Safety, Infection Control, Information Governance, Staff Code of Conduct, Social Networking and Dress Code policies.
- Adult Basic Life Support training if applicable
- Trust Moving & Handling Training if applicable
- COVID-related policies & procedure
- Orientation
- Professional voice: - freedom to speak up, datix, chain of command, open door policy
- An awareness of our Educational Governance Team- evaluation and importance of feedback
- Inter-professional Learning Sessions
- Practice Assessment Record and Evaluation (PARE) training, if applicable
- Collaborative Learning in Practice (CLiP™), if applicable
- How the role of Practice Development Facilitator can support you, where applicable



## What to bring on your first day

- Uniform: All other items in the dress code policy must be adhered to <https://legacy-intranet.lthtr.nhs.uk/search?term=uniform+policy>
- A smallish bag which would fit into a small locker.
- You may wish to bring a packed lunch and a drink on your first day.

## Inter-professional Learning Sessions and eLearning Resources

At our Trust, our Education Team facilitates a yearly programme of Inter-professional Learning (IPL) sessions. This programme consists of various teaching sessions, delivered by our Specialist Teams, to support and enhance our learners and trainees' learning experience with us.

Inter-professional learning is an important part of your development and allows you to build professional relationships and communication skills with the wider multi-disciplinary teams. Our IPL sessions are valuable in supporting you to stretch your knowledge and experiences to enhance your clinical practice. They also help bridge the gap between theory and practice, allowing you to hold a deeper understanding of the topics discussed. Our sessions are open for all learners and trainees on placement at our Trust to attend and these learning opportunities are an extension to your learning environment; therefore, these hours need to be recorded on your timesheets. We encourage our staff to facilitate enabling a learner/trainee to attend these sessions.

**Please note: You must inform your learning environment prior to attending a session.** These IPL sessions need to be discussed in a timely manner with your learning environment.

You are required to complete a reflection on each of your IPL sessions, as well as documenting on your HEI documentation what you have learnt and how this relates to your current placement.

You can book onto our IPL Sessions by accessing this link <https://elearning.lthtr.nhs.uk/login/index.php> and searching for 'IPL'.

You can access our policies and procedures via our Intranet page, which will help expand and stretch your knowledge.

## Support with evidencing your learning outcomes or proficiencies

We encourage you to use the Trust learning logs to collate and evidence your skills, knowledge and abilities achieved. You can then present your completed learning logs to your Practice Assessor/Educator during your assessment meetings. Any staff member who is involved in coaching you can complete your learning log feedback.

You can request time during your placement hours to complete these and request feedback prior to the shift ending. To obtain a copy of our learning logs, please visit our Health Academy Webpage on the link below, where you will see a copy of our CLiP™ Learning Log available for you to download, on the right hand side - <https://healthacademy.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/support/clinical-placement-support/collaborative-learning-in-practice-clip/>

## Chain of Command

Keeping patients safe, providing the best care that we can and learning in an environment where you feel safe and valued is important to us. Speaking up about any concern you have on your learning environment is also important. In fact, it's vital because it will help us to keep improving our services for all patients.

There may be occasions where we witness, experience or are asked to do something that causes us concern. Often, these concerns can be easily resolved, but sometimes it can be difficult to know what to do.

Our Clinical Placement Support Team are available Monday – Friday, 8.00am – 4.00pm should you need to contact them in relation to any concerns regarding your learning environment. If your concern relates to patient safety and/or your concerns are outside of these hours, please follow the chain of command in your learning environment and speak with the person in charge.

Please visit our Freedom to Speak Up page on the Intranet for more details.



## We value your feedback

Our Trust values your feedback. To continuously improve, we offer opportunities for our learners and trainees to provide feedback regarding both your learner experience and your learning environment. We would encourage you to kindly complete your end of placement evaluation, within your clinical hours.

We will keep you updated with the improvements that we make based on the feedback you provide us with.

## Learning Environment Improvement Forum

Our Learning Environment Improvement Forum began in November 2021, with key stakeholders attending; Learners, Trainees, Clinical Staff, Education Leads and our Nursing Directorate. Monthly meetings are held to share new and innovative ideas as to how we can collaboratively enhance our learning environments, to support both learners, trainees and staff.

All attendees at the Learning Environment Improvement Forums contribute their suggestions and guidance on our projects. Collaboratively, exciting improvements are implemented to enhance our learning environments.

Innovative changes made by our Learning Environment Improvement Forum, within Academic Year 2021-2022;

- NEW Learner Boards designed and placed on our learning environments
- Learner booklets made available on our Health Academy webpage to prepare our learners and trainees for their clinical placements, as suggested by our learners and trainees
- PARE and CLiP™ training embedded into our Learner and Trainee Inductions
- Quick Reference Guide designed and created to welcome our learners and trainees to the Trust and prepare them for their clinical placements

We welcome any of our staff, learners and trainees at the Trust to attend our Learner Environment Improvement Forums, to contribute your ideas and suggestions for our new and innovative projects. You can join via the E-Learning Portal - <https://elearning.lthtr.nhs.uk> and going to Courses, then selecting the tab 'Inter Professional Learning', where you will see our forum listed.