

# Learning Environment



**Neuro Infusion Clinic**

# 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>



## Orientation to your Learning Environment – Adult Nursing

*Please complete and present at your initial meeting.*

### **Pre-orientation 2 weeks prior to starting your Learning Environment**

- Arrange a pre-visit to your new Learning Environment.
- Visit your Learning Environment; ask to be shown around and ask what to expect on your first day i.e. where do I put my belongings, where can I put my lunch, where should I go on my first day and who should I report to.
- Ask to be shown your Learner Board, where you will find out who your Supervisor and Assessor is.
- Ask to be shown your Learner Resource File.
- Ask to be shown your off duty and find out what the process is should you need to request an amendment. (It would be at this point that any requests are to be made).
- Access your learning handbook via the Health Academy webpage and start planning what you want to achieve from your Learning Environment.
- We advise that on your **first day you will be starting at 9am**, please discuss this with your learning environment.

### **First day on your new Learning Environment**

- Introduce yourself and inform them that it's your first day.
- Ask to be shown around again, should you require this.
- Request to be shown the Team Board where the teams for the day are displayed, so you can familiarise yourself with; who is in your team, who you are working alongside and where your break times will be displayed.
- Ask to have the chain of command explained to you on this Learning Environment and ask who oversees this Learning Environment (i.e. Unit/Ward Manager).
- The local fire procedures have been explained and where you can find the equipment needed.
- Resuscitation equipment has been shown and explained.
- You know how to summon help in the event of an emergency.
- Lone working policy has been explained (if applicable).
- Risk assessments/reasonable adjustments relating to disability/learning/pregnancy needs have been discussed (where disclosed).
- You are aware of your professional role in practice.

### **Within your first week on your Learning Environment**

- Resuscitation policy and procedures have been explained.
- You are aware of where to find local policies;

- Health & Safety
- Incident reporting procedures
- Infection control
- Handling of messages and enquiries
- Information Governance requirements
- Other policies
- Policy regarding Safeguarding has been explained.
- Complete your initial meeting with your Practice Supervisor/Assessor and discuss any Inter-professional Learning Sessions that you would like to attend.

If you require any further support with your orientation, please contact your Unit/Ward Manager or our Clinical Placement Support Team on 01772 528111/placement.support@lthtr.nhs.uk

**Please note: Any member of staff can complete this document with you.**

## Learning Environment

We would like to welcome you to your learning environment.

On your first day, we will begin with an orientation of the building we are based in, which is Brock Assessment Centre. We have a break room where you can enjoy your breaks with kitchen facilities such as microwave, hot water, tea, coffee, and a fridge where you can store your food (ensuring it is labelled with your name and the date).

We have various bathrooms where you might like to get changed or the break room can be locked on request, to facilitate your privacy. The things you need to bring with you are a pen and your appropriate uniform, smart and ironed and black sensible footwear. The hours of work are as follows:

**Monday – Wednesday ~ 8am – 4pm**

**Thursday ~ 8am – 6pm**

**Friday ~ 8am - 2pm**

If you become ill during your placement with us, please adhere to our sickness policy, which is to call the clinic at the earliest opportunity on **01772 523248** and ask to speak with the nurse who is on duty at that time. Please ensure you keep us up to date on when you will be returning. You will also need to email [learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk](mailto:learner.absences@lthtr.nhs.uk) and inform your University.

Here at the Neurology Infusions Clinic, you will be working alongside two Registered Nurses and one Healthcare Assistant in the clinic itself, where the patients who come in for treatment will be seated upon their arrival. The wider MDT to our clinic is our Specialist Nurses; we have Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Specialist Nurses and Neuromuscular Disease (NMD) Specialist Nurses who will review the patients to find out if the treatment has the desired effect to slow the progression of their disease/condition. We have patients visit our clinic regularly for treatments ranging around every 2-6 weeks or some treatments are only required 6 monthly, depend on the treatment and the patient. We also have Neurology Consultants who review patients when they come in for their treatment.

Whilst you are here with us you will learn about the many different neurological conditions our patients have such as:

- Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Poly Neuropathy (CIDP) which is a neurological condition which involves progressive weakness and reduced senses to arms and legs.
- Multifocal Motor Neuropathy (MMN) which is a disease which affects your bodies motor nerves typically affecting one side more than the other
- Myasthenia Gravis (MG) is a long-term condition which causes muscle weakness commonly affecting muscles which control eyes, facial expressions, swallowing, speaking, and chewing however it can also affect most part of the body.

- Stiff Limb Syndrome / Stiff person syndrome which is a condition which can affect your muscles in limbs and torso alternating between rigidity and spasms

Below is a list of regular medications and treatments you will become familiar with during your placement with us:

- Intravenous Immune Globulin (IVIG)
- Natalizumab (also known as Tysabri) which can be given via Intravenous or subcutaneous injection
- Ocrelizumab (also known as Ocrevus)
- Rituximab
- Methylprednisolone
- Cyclophosphamide

You will be able to develop several competencies with us:

- Canulation/ take bloods
- Observations (NEWS)
- Prime the giving set before infusion with supervision
- Understand the ALARIS pump and set them with supervision.
- Speak with different persons from MDT

The above skills will help gain or boost confidence in using the pumps, giving sets, cannulating, and taking bloods which are all transferrable skills to most wards or departments around the hospital.

If there are any concerns regarding a patient's condition, please escalate promptly to a qualified nurse. Patients can often have allergic reaction to some of the treatments we use; therefore, it is important to monitor closely during and after the treatments.

Our expectations of you throughout your time spent on the Neurology Infusions clinic are as follows:

- Be caring and compassionate towards all patients in your care
- Recognise that everyone is different and individual treating all patient with dignity and respect
- Always involve and inform patients with regards to anything involving their treatment or condition however it is important to remember only to work with in your competence and level of acquired knowledge.
- Always work as part of a team, teamwork is important to ensure a high quality and prompt working environment
- Always take personal responsibility for everything you undertake whilst on placement. If a task is required to be carried out under supervision of a registered nurse it is your responsibility to ensure you seek a registered nurse to come and supervise you before you carry out the task.

## 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. Bi-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.