



## ORIENTATION BOOKLET

For student nurses on clinical placement on Medical Day Unit (MDU) who are undertaking one of the following programmes:

- Bachelor of Science (Nursing) Children's & General Integrated
- Higher Diploma in Nursing Studies (Children's Nursing)
- Bachelor of Science (General)

Student Name:

Preceptor:

### Philosophy of Care on Medical Day Unit

Here on the Medical Day Unit, we aim to work in partnership with children and their families to meet their needs.

We recognise every child as a unique individual and plan each child's care accordingly.

We aim to provide evidence based quality care in a friendly environment.

We acknowledge the impact chronic illness has on family life and endeavour to be flexible and accommodating in our approach, in an environment of mutual respect and understanding.

# Welcome to Medical Day Unit (MDU)

This is a busy 14-bedded unit where staff are committed to providing quality day care for children in a safe environment. We hope your placement will be a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

On the MDU, we care for infants and children with a varied range of medical and surgical conditions. Every child will be assessed and admitted by a nurse and a multidisciplinary approach is utilised. Holistic care of the child and family is delivered from admission to discharge. It would be advisable to review these conditions at the start of your placement. These include the following:

- Gastro-intestinal  
Conditions including Crohns Disease and Ulcerative Colitis. These children may attend for endoscopy and/or Intravenous therapies.
- Immune Deficiency  
Subcutaneous and intravenous infusions of Immunoglobulin.
- Ophthalmic surgery  
Squint repair, examination under sedation.
- Rheumatology patients  
Joint injection, multi-disciplinary review and intravenous therapies.
- Renal patients  
Diagnostic isotope scans.
- Neurology patients  
Conditions such as Opsoclonus myoclonus syndrome as well as patients with uncontrolled seizures requiring intravenous therapies
- Allergy patients  
Food and drug challenges working closely alongside Allergy MDT
- Dermatology patients  
Conditions such as Morphea requiring intravenous therapies
- Haematology patients  
Conditions include patients with Sickle Cell Anaemia, Iron-Deficiency Anaemia, and other haemoglobin abnormalities. These patients attend MDU frequently for Blood Transfusions and a wide variety of investigations to monitor their condition.
- Diagnostic Radiology procedures requiring sedation or anesthesia  
such as MRI/CT/Isotope Imaging
- Multidisciplinary assessments  
Ophthalmology review, Medical and MDT review, Port/PICC/Central line flushes, IV antibiotic therapy

## Clinical Learning and Student Support:

The Medical Day Unit aims to provide a quality learning environment. A wide variety of learning resources and supports are available. You will be allocated a preceptor for your clinical placement. Nursing students have opportunities to work with all the staff nurses and the Clinical Nurse Facilitator but your meetings will be facilitated by your individual preceptor. You will receive an orientation to the unit on your first day and the unit routines will be explained. If you experience any problems during your placement, please ask any nursing staff member, who will help you and aim to offer support at all times.

The MDU learning outcomes are available from your preceptor. There are several education folders in the unit that will also provide information about the children in our care. If you have any specific learning needs, please discuss these with your preceptor, Clinical Nurse Facilitator or Clinical Placement Coordinator. If appropriate, you may contact the unit or your CPC in advance to discuss any concerns. Changing facilities are available and you will have access to a locker for the duration of your placement. Finally, enjoy your placement in the MDU and be assured we are all available to help and support you throughout your placement.

The following websites may be useful:

[www.childreninhospital.ie](http://www.childreninhospital.ie)

[www.olchc.ie](http://www.olchc.ie)

### Important Phone Numbers for the MDU

Main Office	01 4096525/6818
CNM office	01 4096559
Hospital Main Number	01 4096100

## Ward staff

The staff on Medical Day Unit consists of Clinical Nurse Managers (CNM 1) and (CNM 2), Clinical Nurse Facilitator (CNF), Staff Nurses, Healthcare Assistants, Play Specialist, Clerical Staff & Household Staff.

Clinical Placement Coordinator (CPCs) are available if required on bleep 8596/8597/8599 or extension 2707.

Please feel free to familiarise yourself with our staff photo board where there are photos and names of the staff working on MDU. Our "Hello, My Name Is" badges should help you remember our names too.

### Opening Hours

Monday – Friday, 7.00am to 7.00pm

## Hours of Placement (All Students)

You will be advised on how many days & weeks you must attend placement for (clinical shifts and reflective practice days) by the following:

- **Supernumerary Nursing students:** Student Allocations Liaison Officer (SALO)
- **PRCNS students:** PRCNS Co-Ordinator

## Off Duty

- Your off duty will be decided by the Clinical Nurse Manager 2.
  - Changes to your off duty may be facilitated but this is dependent on ward skill mix.
  - Duty may be swapped between students only with prior agreement of Clinical Nurse Manager 2.
  - During your placement you will be allocated a preceptor and a co-preceptor. We try as much as possible to facilitate students to work alongside your allocated preceptor so that your assessments are performed by nursing staff you have been closely linked with.
- **Reflective practice:** You will be facilitated to attend your mandatory reflective practice sessions in the CCNE (Children’s Centre for Nurse Education) or online. Reading & unstructured reflective practice will be accommodated but must be undertaken within the department.

## Absence Reporting:

If you are, absent for any reason you must follow the reporting structure below:

<b><u>Absence Reporting</u></b>	
<b>Supernumerary Nursing Students</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> yrs.)	<b>Rostered Student Nurses</b> (PRCNS & Interns)
1. <b>Ring</b> the Clinical Area	1. <b>Ring</b> Nursing Admin
2. <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:student.absence@olhc.ie">student.absence@olhc.ie</a>	2. <b>Ring</b> the Clinical Area
	3. <b>Email:</b> PRCNS Co-Ordinator (PRCNS) / <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:student.absence@olhc.ie">student.absence@olhc.ie</a> (Interns)
Please refer to the <b>full</b> guideline for further information hours, absences and returning to placement:	
➤ <i>Supernumerary students Guidelines on Absenteeism and Duty, Supernumerary Nursing Students BSc Nursing Children’s and General -Nov. 2020</i>	➤ <i>CHI Crumlin Guideline on Duty Public Holiday Absenteeism for Rostered Stds 2021</i>

## Miscellaneous

### Normal ranges of vital signs

The normal ranges for vital signs in paediatrics vary depending on the infant's/child's age. Please consult the age appropriate Paediatric Observation Chart (PEWS).

There are five charts: 0-3 months    4-11 months    1-4 years    5-11 years    12+ years

### Drug Calculations

What you want    X volume in which it is contained  
What you have

### Vaccination Schedule for Children in Ireland

Immunisation Schedule: For the most recent information please refer to the following website: [www.hse.ie/immunisations](http://www.hse.ie/immunisations) and the OLCHC Medication Policy 2017.

While you are on clinical placement you will be 'buddied' with your preceptor/co-preceptor/a registered nurse. If you have any information to feedback regarding your patient in the first instance report it to your 'buddy' nurse, if they are not available report it to the CNM/nurse in charge. Always handover your patient information before going on break or home to your 'buddy' nurse.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preceptor/ CNF Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_