

Orientation Booklet for Nursing Students on Clinical Placement in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)

BSc Nursing (Children's and General)

Higher Diploma Nursing Studies (Children's)

Student Name: _____ Preceptor(s): _____

PHILOSOPHY OF CARE PICU

Our philosophy is based on family centered care, where we recognise, respect and support the essential role of the family in the lives of children.

We provide a caring environment for critically ill children in partnership with their families and encourage open communication.

We respect each child that we care for and treat them as individuals. We strive to provide compassionate, holistic care for each child whilst respecting cultural diversity and religious beliefs.

We are committed to promoting restoration of health to achieve the child's optimum level of health, however where death is inevitable we recognise that the child has the right to die with dignity and free from pain in the presence of those that love them.

Introduction:

Welcome to PICU. We hope that you enjoy your clinical placement in our units. This booklet aims to give you an overview of the units, the staff and the learning opportunities which are available to you during your placement.

Our Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) is a 23 bedded unit split over two floors. PICU 1 comprises of 15 beds and PICU 2 holds 8 beds. We care for children from birth up to 16

years of age from all specialities including but not limited to cardiac, cardio thoracic, ENT, general surgery, medical, oncology, haematology and renal. The unit accepts over 1000 admissions per year and is one of the largest PICU's in Europe.

The PICU Team:

There are over 160 nurses in our PICU including nurse managers, a clinical education team, and research and audit nurses. Other members of the team include consultant intensivists, medical and anaesthetic doctors, specialist physiotherapists, dieticians, pharmacist, health care assistants, data managers, social workers, clerical staff, chaplaincy and household staff.

Learning Objectives:

During your stay with us we would like you to consider the following

- The normal anatomy of an infant and child
- The normal physiology of respiration
- Foetal circulation
- Basic Life Support
- Airway management equipment
- The management of chest drains and fluid balances

During this placement, take the opportunity to develop your basic patient assessment skills. This is a skill that will stay with you throughout your career.

1. Airway
2. Breathing
3. Circulation
4. Neurological
5. GI/Intake
6. Lines/ Sites
7. Output/ Renal/Drains
8. Skin
9. Medications
10. Social
11. PLAN

Examples of conditions you may come across when on placement:

Floor 1: Diaphragmatic Hernia
 Chronic Lung Disease of Prematurity
 Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia
 Sepsis

Oncology Conditions
Airway/Lung compromise due to congenital defects
Trans Oesophageal Fistulas
Palliative Care
Trauma Patients

Floor 2: ASD
VSD
Tetralogy of Fallows
Transposition of the great arteries
Hypoplastic left heart
PDA

It would be advisable to become familiar with these conditions in order to gain the best experience possible during your time with us.

The following websites may be of some benefit to you:

- www.irishheart.ie
- www.congenitalheartdefects.com
- www.olchc.ie
- www.cdruk.org.uk

Patient Safety:

The children in PICU require highly specialised nursing care. Although you are supernumerary it is important to involve yourself in the care of the patient and family in our care. Please be mindful to work within your own scope of practice and clarify what you can and cannot do with your preceptor.

PICU Routine:

Each day within the PICU environment can be very different and is dependent on the child's condition. Below is a rough guide of our daily routine.

7:30 Handover from night staff

8:00 Patient assessment and patient specific Daily Plan

8:15 Bloods

8:30 Organising TPN, CXR, U/S's

Onwards: Follow up on Team reviews and orders
Medications & Infusions
Cares (Family Centred where applicable)
Repositioning
Parents visiting & updates
Quiet time
Examinations
Follow up on examinations or ward rounds
Consulting with Nurse Manager and MDT
Documentation
Dietary needs
Observations
And continuous reassessment from earlier baseline...

Student Support:

The PICU aims to provide a quality learning environment to everyone. A wide variety of learning resources and supports are available. You will be allocated a preceptor for your clinical placement. Nursing students have an opportunities to work with all staff nurses and the Clinical Nurse Facilitators. You will receive an orientation on your first day and the unit routine will be explained. If you experience any problems during your placement please ask any of our nursing team who will endeavour to offer support and a solution to your issue.

The PICU learning outcomes are available from your preceptor. There are several education folders on the unit that will also provide information about the children we care for. If you have any specific learning needs, please discuss these with your preceptor or member of the CNF team.

Undergraduate nursing students will complete a case-study on a child you have cared for and this will be presented at your reflective practice session. Finally, please enjoy your placement with us and be assured that we are all available to help and support you throughout your placement.

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 & Rostered 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:

<u>Absence Reporting</u>	
Supernumerary Nursing Students (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th yrs.)	Rostered Student Nurses (PRCNS & Interns)
1. Ring the Clinical Area	1. Ring Nursing Admin
2. Email: student.absence@olhc.ie	2. Ring the Clinical Area
	3. Email: PRCNS Co-Ordinator (PRCNS) / Email: student.absence@olhc.ie (Interns)
Please refer to the full 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>

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PICU

BSC(C&G) and HDNS

RESPIRATORY	CARDIAC	NEONATAL	FLUIDS	FAMILY CENTERED CARE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Oxygen therapy .Nebulisers . Intubation and extubation .Chest x-ray . Blood gases . Suctioning . Physiotherapy .Recognition of respiratory distress/ failure . Tracheostomy care . Saturation monitoring . Apnoea Alarm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Echo . ECG . Admissions and Assessment . Inotropes . Chest Drains: Insertion, Care of and Removal . Recognition of Shock . Resuscitation: Assemble mini- jets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Temperature Regulation . Incubator/ Radiant warmer . Phototherapy . Glucose Monitoring . Neonatal Screening . Infection Control . Minimal Handling . Developmental Care: Positioning, Nesting, Noise/ Light . Necrotising Enterocolitis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Fluid Restrictions . Fluid Balance Charts . Urinary Catheters . Nutrition- Dietician . TPN . Enteral Feeds i.e. Naso-gastric, PEG feeding . Promoting Breastfeeding . Central Venous Lines (CVCs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Chaplaincy . Cardiology CNS . Social Worker . Death and Dying . Psycho- social meeting . Joint Cardiac Meeting . Play/ Development . Parental Needs

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: