**YEAR 4 WARD PLACEMENT IN CLINICAL NEUROSCIENCES**

**WARDS 230 and 231, DCN/RHCYP**

Welcome to your ‘Specialty Block’ Ward Placement in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences (DCN).

The placement is intended to provide generic ward experience, but you will also learn about the assessment and management of various neurological/neurosurgical conditions.

12 students will be allocated to DCN during each 5 week block, each rotating through the following activities (see timetable for details):

* Ward 231 (Neurology) and Ward 230 (Neurosurgery)
* 1 SpR clinic (either General Clinic or Rapid Access Neurology Clinic)
* 1 on-call weekend shift
* 1 nursing shift
* 1 half day with ward therapist staff (PT, OT, dietician, SALT)
* Department teaching

**Introductory meeting, SPHERE, 3rd floor, DCN/RHCYP (9-10am, Monday of Week 1):**

You will be met by Jane McCrindle (Local Education Co-Ordinator) who will provide you with a ward pass, tendon hammer and tuning fork (which must be signed out and returned at the end of Week 5). You will also meet Dr David Breen (Year 4 Undergraduate Lead for Clinical Neurosciences) who will provide a short induction and show you around the wards.

**Ward 231 (Neurology):**

You will spend a total of 1 week on ward 231 (2+3 days). Every student will have a slightly different experience, but you should take advantage of the following learning opportunities:

* Attend SpR and consultant ward rounds (including Blue Team WR Thursday 10.30am)
* Attend MAU ‘acute sweep’ (usually mid morning every weekday)
* Observe lumbar puncture in Programmed Investigations Unit
* Accompany patient to brain scan
* Attend EEG and/or nerve conduction studies
* Attend neuroradiology meeting
* Assess new admission
* Attend neuroinflammatory MDT meeting (Thursday 1.30pm)
* Attend video telemetry meeting (Friday morning)
* Shadow junior ward staff

**Ward 230 (Neurosurgery):**

You will spend a total of 1 week on ward 230 (2+3 days). The Local Module Lead for Neurosurgery is Mr Chandru Kaliaperumal. Every student will have a slightly different experience, but you should take advantage of the following learning opportunities:

* Attend SpR and consultant ward rounds
* Attend surgical theatre to observe neurosurgical operation
* Assess new admission
* Shadow junior ward staff

**SpR clinics:**

These clinics take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings at DCN Outpatient Clinic (Ground Floor, DCN/RHCYP). Students are timetabled to attend 1 SpR clinic during their ward placement. Students should check in advance with the ward SpR that the clinic is taking place. In the event that the clinic is cancelled, students can attend one of the other SpR clinics that have not been assigned to students.

**Ward therapy teams:**

Our non-medical ward colleagues have kindly agreed for students to shadow them (see timetable for your allocated sessions). Further information on meeting place/time and contact details are provided below:

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| **Team** | **Meeting time and place** | **Email contact** |
| Nursing | 7.30am, Staff Break Room, Ward 231 | Carol.E.Paterson@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk or Careen.Young@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk  |
| PT | 9.15am or 1pm, DCN Therapies  | Mary.X.Graham@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk |
| OT | 9.15am or 1pm, DCN Therapies  | Tony.Kimera@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk |
| Dietician | 9.30am, DCN Therapies  | Emma.L.Wilkinson@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk  |
| SALT | 2pm, Treatment Room 4, DCN Therapies | Diane.Fraser@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk |

**Departmental teaching:**

This weekly education session takes place between 2.30-4.30pm. It begins with an expert speaker on a particular neurological topic, followed by two clinical case presentations. All ward placement students are encouraged to attend unless they have another timetabled session.

**Dress:**

The ward is a professional environment so please dress appropriately. Smart trousers/skirts and shirts/tops are preferred. Clothes should cover shoulder to knee as a minimum with appropriate coverage of the neckline. An identity badge should be visible to members of the public, patients, staff and other students. Wrist watches are not permitted in clinical areas.

**Absence reporting:**

In the event that you are unable to attend your shift, please contact Judi Clarke (Judi.Clarke@ed.ac.uk).

**Feedback:**

We are interested in hearing about ways to improve the ward placement experience, therefore we will ask you to complete a Feedback Form at the end of the placement.

**Other contact details:**

* For overall questions about Year 4 medical teaching, email: MBChB.Year4@ed.ac.uk
* For overall questions about DCN ward placement, email: David.Breen@ed.ac.uk
* For questions about neurosurgery, email: Chandrasekaran.Kaliaperumal@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
* For questions about DCN ward timetable, email: Neil.Watson@nhs.scot
* For absence reporting, email: Judi.Clarke@ed.ac.uk
* For issues with badges or ward access, email: Jane.E.McCrindle@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk