Medical Decisions Unit (EAU 4)

Welcome to the Medical Decisions Unit (EAU 4)

About the Unit:
The medical decisions unit is a 12 hour short stay unit. Patients are admitted onto the unit to wait for test results, senior medical review or admission to an appropriate speciality bed in the main hospital. The unit cares for a variety of medical conditions and can provide cardiac monitoring if required.

Contact details:
Telephone number
- Please call on 01223 254402

Visiting:
Visiting times are from 08:00 — 20:00.

The unit operates a policy of only two visitors per patient. We ask any visitors to refrain from sitting on the patients beds and to use the chairs we provide in order to maintain good infection control.

To help us prevent the spread of any infections, please ask your visitors to use the hand rub at the entrance to the ward on arrival and on leaving.

Meals and Snacks:

Breakfast: 8:15 – 9:15 – A selection of cereals, toast, fruit and juices

Lunch: 12:15pm – 13:00 – A hot meal and dessert – different menu daily

Dinner: 17:15 – 18:00 – A selection of sandwiches, soup of the day, dessert

Water, hot drinks and snacks are always available in-between meal times, just ask a member of staff. Please tell a member of staff if you have any dietary requirements.
Uniforms:

- **Senior sister**: Navy blue with white piping.
  The senior sister has overall responsibility for the unit and manages all aspects of unit activity, patient care and staff development.

- **Junior sister/Charge nurse**:
  - Male: White tunic with blue epaulettes
  - Female: Royal blue with white piping
  The junior sister /charge nurse are experienced nurses who take charge of the unit on a daily shift basis. They also deputise for the senior sister.

- **Registered staff nurses**:
  - Male: White tunic with blue striped epaulettes
  - Female: Blue and white striped dresses/tunics
  Registered staff nurses are trained nurses who deliver the care/medical treatments daily to the patients they are assigned.

- **Healthcare Assistants**:
  - Male: White tunics with yellow, grey, burgundy or green epaulettes
  - Female: Blue and grey striped dresses/tunics with yellow, grey, burgundy or green epaulettes
  Health care assistants are unregistered nurses who assist the registered nurses in the delivery of some aspects of patient care.

- **Specialist Nurses**: Navy blue and red piping
  Specialist nurses are registered nurses who have specialised and are highly experienced in a particular medical speciality. They are not based on the unit and care for particular patients that need specialist input.

- **Advanced nurse practitioners – Black scrubs**
  Advanced nurse practitioners are nurses that have advanced skills and work alongside the doctors to provide a medical plan for their patients.

- **Student nurses**: Grey tunics/dresses
  Student nurses are training to be registered nurses. They may be at any point of their three year training and are under the supervision of a registered nurse.

**On each shift there is a senior nurse in charge of the unit. You will also be allocated a registered nurse who is in charge of your care.**
Security:
Please keep your belongings to a minimum and store them in your bedside locker. For your own health and safety, please let a member of the ward staff know if you leave the ward at any time.

Day of Discharge:
Once your medical team decide you are medically fit to go home they will provide you with a discharge letter summarising your admission to the unit. You may need to also be seen by a physiotherapist or occupational therapist and discharged from their care as well.
If there is new medication for you to go home with, you may need to wait for pharmacy to provide these.

Transport
Once all the teams that are involved in your care feel you are ready to go home, your nurse will discuss with you how you are going to get home. The Trust does not routinely provide/ fund transport or taxi’s for patients to go home.

If you have any questions about any aspect of your admission to the unit, please speak to the nurse in charge.

We are now a smoke-free site: smoking will not be allowed anywhere on the hospital site.
For advice and support in quitting, contact your GP or the free NHS stop smoking helpline on 0800 169 0 169.

Other formats:
If you would like this information in another language, large print or audio, please ask the department where you are being treated, to contact the patient information team: patient.information@addenbrookes.nhs.uk.
Please note: We do not currently hold many leaflets in other languages; written translation requests are funded and agreed by the department who has authored the leaflet.

Document history
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