INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Haematology Oncology Day Unit (HODU) is a 15 bedded unit serving:

- Benign Haematology patients requiring Day Case treatment and education for patients with clotting disorders and red cell disorders.
- On the Chronic Blood Transfusion Programme, we facilitate maximum 5 patients per day for a Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC) transfusion or RCC Exchange, Medical Day Unit also facilitate this programme.
- Patients with clotting disorders requiring treatment pre day case theatre procedures including Dental work.
- Patients for DDAVP Trial or factor trial.
- Emergency admissions for Haemophilia patients with joint bleed or trauma, attend the Day Unit Monday – Friday, excluding head injury. These patients go directly to Emergency Department.
- Patients with Sickle Cell Crisis, go directly to Emergency Department.
- Malignant Haematology and Oncology patients attend for day case procedures including Chemotherapy, theatre for Bone Marrow Examination and Lumber Puncture with Intrathecal Chemotherapy, Supportive Care including Antibiotics, Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC) and Platelet transfusions, bloods and Dressings, Glomerular filtration rate (GFR)
- Emergency admissions for patients who are febrile, vomiting or generally unwell following their treatment, attend the Day Unit Monday - Friday. Out of hours - patients attend St. Johns ward. Please phone ahead should you need to come in at any time.
- Patients having an MRI, MIBG, CT scans with sedation Removal of Hickman or Port, attend the main hospital Medical or Surgical Day Unit.

STAFF

- Clinical Nurse Manager II - Mairead Lee
- Clinical Nurse Manager I - Veronica Ryan
- Staff Nurses x 12 - Carmel, Dani, Soosy, Oonagh, Dympna, Sharon, Terhi, Shilly, Ger, Fiona, Jacqui
- Bed Manager - Karen Marshall, ring switch 01 409 6100 / Bleep 649
- Ward Clerk - Paschal
- Admissions Clerk - Valerie/ Martina
- Filing Clerk - Aisling
- Health Care Assistant - Jamie and Linda
- Household - Mikaela and Larissa
- Play Specialist - Carol

PHILOSOPHY OF CARE

We are committed to providing family centred health care in a safe, compassionate and supportive environment. We recognise the uniqueness of each child and their family and aim to provide holistic care that is personal, individual and attentive to one’s needs.

The care provided is research based enabling the multi-disciplinary team to deliver the highest standards of healthcare to each child and their family.
Patients may see a range of professionals and allied health workers while attending the HODU for treatment. These include:

- Clinical Nurse Specialists
- Consultants
- Dietician
- Doctors
- IV Team
- Pharmacist
- Physiotherapist
- Psychologist
- Social work

*Ask your nurse to contact them*

**OPENING HOURS**

- Monday – Friday 07:45-19:00. Last emergency admission, is no later than 18:30hrs. After this time, St Johns Ward will provide care.

- Elective admissions to the HODU is limited between 12:30hrs - 14:00Hrs, to avoid extended waiting times as morning patients may still be receiving treatment and there is reduced staff over the lunchtime period. *Exceptions can apply* and the nurse may ask you to attend between these times, should your treatment require it. The Admission clerk, will always check with the nurse in charge before asking you to wait. Last elective admission should be no later than 4pm.

- Patients requiring admission as an emergency e.g febrile, joint bleed or generally unwell, can attend **ANYTIME**. Please phone ahead.

- Patients with red blood cell disorders for elective blood transfusions. 14:00hrs is latest appointment time, if blood cross matched the day before. 12:00hrs is latest appointment time, if blood samples have to be taken for transfusion on same day.

- Saturday and Sunday care, will be provided by St Johns in-patient ward for Malignant Haematology Oncology patients. Benign Haematology patients, attend Emergency Department, unless other arrangements have been made by the medical team.

- Bank Holiday Mondays, we have 2 staff. Service provided, include some chemotherapy administration (mid-course), factor administration, pre-theatre and pre-chemo bloods and review of unwell patients. Medical cover is ON CALL.

**HAEMONC THEATRE LIST**

**PROCEDURE**

- Lumber Puncture, Intrathecal chemotherapy, Bone Marrow Aspirate and Biopsy only
- Performed in Anaesthetic room 6 in Theatre
- 6 patients on list per day
- Daily list Monday – Friday
- Maximum 2 isolation cases per list
- Start time 08:5hrs
- Time slots are allocated according to clinical need i.e. **not always first come first served**
- Check into HODU 08:00hrs at the admission office.
- For airway safety reasons, repassing of NG tubes is **not routinely performed** under anaesthetic.
- Due to time restraints in theatre, only the first Hickman dressing is performed in theatre.
• Date for theatre may be changed at short notice (i.e. day before) due to demand. Decision to postpone and re-schedule, is made by consultant in charge

FASTING TIMES
• 6 hours fast from food or milk
• 2 hours fast from fluids (clear fluids only - 7Up or water)
• 4 hours fast from breast feed

BLOODS
• Platelets must be 50 or over for Lumbar Puncture.
• Full Blood Count, must be checked the day before or day of procedure.

MEDICATIONS
• Leukaemia Maintenance patients - Oral methotrexate must not be taken in week of IT Methotrexate (in 4 day gap in between)
• Discuss with your consultant, if your child is receiving other important medications e.g. diabetes, epilepsy, hypertension, as to whether these meds need to be taken pre-theatre or not.

PRE THEATRE
• All patients must wear theatre gown and name band
• All patients should have a wash the night before, nail varnish should be removed

POST THEATRE
• Remove plasters and dressings from lumber puncture site and Bone Marrow aspirate site the next day as this can be a source of infection.
• Patients may be discharged one hour post procedure, once food or sugary drink is tolerated and patient has passed urine.

APPOINTMENT TIMES
• A return appointment date and time will be given to you when you are being discharged
• Please phone ahead if your attendance is unplanned
• Theatre 08:00hrs
• Chemotherapy Infusions 10:00hrs
• Red Cell Transfusions 10:00hrs and afternoon 14:00hrs if blood already cross matched from day before.
• Bolus chemotherapy 14:30hrs
• Bloods and Dressings 0:800hrs - 09:00hrs or 15:00hrs – 16:00hrs
• We are an Emergency Department for HaemOnc patients, so unforeseen circumstances can sometimes lead to waiting times being extended, we will do our utmost to adhere to times given and ask that you do so also. There can be variety of reasons for delays in starting treatment e.g. availability of doctor, nurse, laboratory results, pharmacy, IV cannulation, blood products etc. We will keep you informed of the reasons for waiting and we will record and report any unnecessary delays.

We value your input and comments in all aspects of our patients experience, so please talk to us.

ISOLATION
• Should your child require isolation, a doctor will inform you by phone, in advance of admission.
• Following diagnosis of an infection in the stool, we require a repeat stool sample at 3 weeks, 4 weeks and 5 weeks intervals. If these 3 samples are negative, then isolation is no longer required.
• A pack with stamped addressed envelopes, forms and sample bottles, will be available to you. Please ask a staff member
• Following a diagnosis of an infection in the sputum, throat or nasal passages, a repeat sample will be required at 4 weeks, 5 weeks and 6 weeks intervals. If these samples are negative, then isolation is no longer required.
A diagnosis of ESBL, VRE or CRE will unfortunately mean isolation is required for the duration of your child’s treatment regardless of negative samples.

Information leaflets are available in HODU wall display.

Patients with an “infection control alert” may have go at the end of lists such as theatre, ECHO, Radiography etc to help reduce the risk of spread.

Theatre appointments for Lumbar Puncture (LP), Intrathecal (IT), Bone Marrow Aspirate (BMA), may be postponed due to lack of isolation slots in theatre.

All postponements are always done in consultation with the consultant Haematologists and Oncologists and escalated to management.

VISITORS

Most of our patients are immunocompromised and undergoing long and sometimes difficult treatment. We ask that 2 people maximum, immediate family only, attend with the patient at any one time.

Siblings may visit, but during school holidays, we ask that siblings do not attend for duration of treatment for several reasons, including infection control, capacity issues and health and safety of patients, siblings and staff.

SERVICES

WiFi is available

Spare clothing, pyjamas, overnight toiletries.

DVDs, PlayStation, X Box, Arts and crafts, toys and puzzles, Beads of Courage with Carol our play specialist plus Children in Hospital volunteers

Hot lunch each day plus breakfast and snacks/sandwiches on request throughout the day.

Parents or patients are not permitted in the kitchen. Please ask Health Care Assistant or any member of staff should you require water or anything else from kitchen.

Re-heating your own food is not permitted in the Day Unit as per hospital policy.

CONTACT DETAILS

HODU Phone 01 409 6649
Bed Manager Karen Marshall 01409 6100 / Bleep 649
St Johns Ward 01409 6660
Haemoglobinopathy ANP Roseanna Bleep 110
Haemophilia CNSp Mary Bleep

REMEMBER

For more information on HODU or if you have any comments, concerns or complaints, please contact Nurse Managers Mairead Lee or Veronica Ryan.

Make sure anyone attending to your child, have washed their hands or used alcohol gel.

We ask that anyone entering or leaving the Day Unit, including children, wash the hands or use alcohol gel provided.

Your Queries or Concerns

Developed by HODU
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Please see link to Parent information leaflets on the OLCHC website that may be of interest to you.

http://www.olchc.ie/Children-Family/Parent-Patient-Information-leaflets/Parent-Patient-Information-Leaflets.html

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