

Critical Care Outreach Service



CRITICAL CARE OUTREACH SERVICE

Introduction

The Critical Care Outreach team came into existence in November 2000 following the recommendations made in the Comprehensive Critical Care document. This document states that the Outreach service will have 3 essential objectives. These are:

1. To avert admissions to Intensive Care / High Dependency Units (ICU / HDU) by identifying patients who are deteriorating and either helping to prevent admission or by ensuring that admission to a critical care bed happens in a timely manner to ensure best outcome
2. To enable discharge by supporting the continued recovery of discharged patients on the wards.
3. To share critical care skills with ward staff to improve skills, practice and training opportunities.

The Critical Care Outreach team is a multi-disciplinary team consisting of nursing, physiotherapy and medical staff.

Aims of the team

The team aims to promote early identification and provide support in the management of all 'level one' patients. These are patients identified as being at risk of deterioration. This will be achieved by:

- Follow up and support of patients discharged from a critical care area
- Providing support and advice to meet the educational needs of all ward based staff
- Early identification of 'at risk' patients through the use of an Early Warning Scoring system (EWS)
- Prevent inappropriate admission to a critical care bed and optimise on the ward those patients that do require admission.
- Assess all discharges from a critical care area as well as any referrals and advise on treatment to prevent further physiological deterioration.

Introducing Outreach

The Critical Care Outreach Team will be setting up the service at both St. James's and the Leeds General Infirmary from January 2001. The EWS will be piloted on designated ward areas initially, however, referrals will be accepted from any ward area and from any member of the multi-disciplinary team.

Initially, the team will work Monday – Friday 07.30 – 16.30

The Outreach teams are:

		Pager
SJUH:	Gill Runkee (Sister)	07669 176245
	Heather Mason (Sister)	07625 467862
	Ashley Simmons (Physiotherapist)	07625 461888
LGI	Sarah Bailor (Sister)	07669 072834

Kate Parkins
(Sister)

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