Paediatric Haematology and Oncology Service

Introduction

This leaflet gives you information about the Paediatric Haematology and Oncology Service based at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.

About the Paediatric Haematology and Oncology Service

We are a shared care centre and part of the South West regional Paediatric Haematology and Oncology Service. We work closely with our colleagues at the Principal Treatment Centre at Bristol Royal Hospital for Children.

The majority of our children are referred to Bristol Royal Hospital for Children for diagnosis and treatment planning. The management and delivery of care is then agreed and shared between services in Bristol and Gloucester dependent on your child’s diagnosis, age and treatment. The Paediatric Haematology and Oncology team at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital regularly liaise with the Bristol team about each child’s care.

Accommodation

The service has its own dedicated 4 bedded unit known as the Emily Kent Unit (EKU) which is part of the larger Paediatric Ward. Each of the 4 inpatient rooms has an ensuite bathroom and a bed for 1 parent to stay.

Accommodation for a second parent is available in the parent’s accommodation suite on the second floor, above the Children’s Centre.

There are washing machines and a tumble dryer which can be used but laundry products are not provided.
A small parent’s kitchen/sitting room is located within the unit where hot drinks and light snacks can be made. There is a coffee machine, toaster, microwave and a fridge freezer where you can keep food (as long as it is labelled and within date). Tea and coffee is provided.

**Activity equipment**

There is a television each inpatient room and a range of games consoles available for patient use. DVD’s can be played on some of these.

There is a play room for the younger children with a range of toys, games, craft materials, books and DVD’s. We try to accommodate children of all abilities; please let the play specialists know if there is something your child particularly likes.

‘The Closet’ is a dedicated room for children and young people over 11 years of age. ‘The Closet’ has a large television, an Xbox 1 with restricted internet use, a range of DVD’s, books and a juke box. If there are no young people on the unit then parents staying on EKU are welcome to use this space in the evenings. Please ask a member of staff for the access code.

**The team**

During your child’s treatment you will meet many professionals who are all working together in the best interests of your child, to meet their needs and provide a high standard of care:

**Medical staff**

- **Consultant paediatrician (Head of service)**
  Responsible for the planned treatment, medical management and long term follow up of haematology patients. Also responsible for the overall management of the Paediatric Haematology and Oncology Service.

- **Consultant paediatrician**
  Responsible for the planned treatment, medical management and long term follow up of the oncology patients.
If your child attends EKU unwell then they will be seen by a ward doctor. All ward doctors are able to care for your child and will contact your child’s consultant or the team in Bristol, if necessary.

**Nursing staff**

- **Lead Paediatric Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) and Paediatric Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist**
  The CNS team are mainly community focused and are responsible for the nursing aspects of your child’s care at home. When possible the CNS will visit your child at home to reduce the time spent in hospital. The CNS will provide advice and support. The CNS will also be your child’s key worker; linking things together between home and hospitals and is your point of contact for any queries you have. The CNS team provide links with the Primary Health Care Team (PHCT), the Children’s Community Nursing Team (CCNT), Acorn’s Hospice, nurseries and schools.

- **Teenage and Young Adults (TYA) Specialist Nurse**
  Works with young people aged 16 to 24 years to make sure they receive the best possible care and support.

- **Emily Kent Unit Ward Manager** is responsible for the overall running of the unit.

- **Ward Sisters** are responsible for the inpatient nursing service; this includes administration of chemotherapy and care of your child.

- **Nursing Team**
  There are a number of nurses, who you will get to know well, who are able to check and administer chemotherapy treatment.

**Wider team members**

- **Hospital Play Specialists and assistants**
  Provide play in the playroom and at the bedside. They are very skilled at meeting your child’s needs. They work with children and parents to find ways in which to support them during difficult procedures.
The play specialists and assistants are also responsible for making sure that all patients are provided with the opportunity to join the ‘Beads of courage’ scheme and maintain collection of their beads during treatment.

- **School teacher**
  Children from Reception class up to Year 11 will continue to receive education while in hospital. The school teacher will liaise directly with your child’s school. A referral may also be made to the education outreach team to provide lessons at home. If you have any questions about your child’s education please discuss this with one of the teaching staff.

- **CLIC Sargent Social Worker**
  Provides support, help and advice with employment, benefits, holidays and social activities.

- **Secretary**
  Provides secretarial support to the service and usually knows where everyone is and where to contact them. If in doubt during the working day please do not hesitate to contact her.

**Visitors**

- **Anyone with a cough, cold or upset stomach should not visit the EKU**
- **Anyone with chickenpox, shingles, measles or mumps must not visit the EKU**

*If in doubt please contact the EKU nurse to check before visiting.*

There are no restrictions on the number of visitors but we ask you to be sensible. It is nice for children to see their family and friends but it is also quite tiring, so please do not encourage too many visitors at any one time. Brothers and sisters are always welcome.
Appointments

All children will be given an appointment time for planned treatment and procedures. Times are arranged to allow enough time for your child to be reviewed by the doctor and for chemotherapy to be given.

Sometimes we may have to change appointment time but we try to accommodate your preferences when possible.

EKU open access

All children on treatment and up to 6 months after treatment have open access to the EKU.

If your child is unwell and receiving treatment they do not need to wait for an appointment. If your child has a temperature, is generally unwell or you have any concerns please contact the EKU nurse on Tel. 07813 456 570.

Amenities

The nearest hospital amenities can be found in the Atrium of the main hospital; there you will find a coffee shop, newsagents, book shop and a cash machine (free).

Foster’s restaurant is located in the Tower block of the main hospital where you will also find another coffee shop, newsagent, cash machine and a post box. The Hospital Chapel is located on the ground floor in the Tower block.

On London Road (just outside the Claremont Street entrance), there is a Tesco express, newsagents, small grocery shop, take away, and a fish and chip shop.

Domino’s Pizza will deliver to the children’s entrance. Take away food can be brought in for consumption by you and your child but cannot be kept.

Hospital parking

You are entitled to a free car parking pass to the Orchard Centre car park and the other visitor car parks. You will need to take a signed form to the Parking Office to get the pass, please ask any member of staff about this. A blue badge will allow you to park in any designated disabled space on the hospital site.
CLIC Sargent
This is a national charity which supports families of a child who has cancer or leukaemia. CLIC Sargent funds the CLIC Sargent Social Workers. The charity provides care grants, information, and 'Home from Homes' in Bristol (places for families to stay while their child is in hospital there).

Contact information

Dr Thomas Kus
Consultant Paediatrician – Service Lead
Tel: 0300 422 8491
Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm
Email: T.Kus@nhs.net

Dr Augusta Isaac
Consultant Paediatrician
Tel: 0300 422 8491
Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm
Email: Augusta.Isaac@nhs.net

Claire Harrison
Lead Paediatric Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist
Tel: 0300 422 8484
Mobile: 07880 794 642
Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm
Tuesdays, 7:00am to 7.30pm
Email: Claire.Harrison33@nhs.net

Kelly Prosser-Tyrrell
Paediatric Oncology Clinical Nurse Specialist
Tel: 0300 422 8484
Mobile: 07811 989 050
Tuesday, Thursday, and some Wednesdays, 8:00am to 5:00pm
Email: Kelly.Prosser@nhs.net
Megan Willsher  
TYA Specialist Nurse  
Tel: 0300 422 3446  
Mobile: 07833 441 289  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 7:30am to 5:30pm  
Email: Megan.Willsher@nhs.net

Ward Manager  
Tel: 0300 422 8459

Janet Byrne-Goddard  
CLIC Sargent Social Worker  
Mobile: 07920 108 503  
Email: Janet.Byrne-Goddard@clicsargent.org.uk

Secretary  
Tel: 0300 422 8491  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm  
Thursday, 9:00am to 12:30pm

Contact details for the ward nurses and play team:

Emily Kent Unit  
Tel: 0300 422 8567  
Mobile: 07813 456 570  
Available 24 hours a day

Children’s Centre  
Tel: 0300 422 8307  
Tel: 0300 422 8308  
Available 24 hours a day

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