

Warwick Hospital

INTRODUCTION

Warwick is an old market town and the administrative centre for the county. Separated by the River Avon is the Regency town of Royal Leamington Spa, which is the main commercial centre of the area;

eight miles to the southwest lies Stratford-upon-Avon and ten miles north, Coventry. There are excellent educational facilities at all levels, in both the public and private sector. The area offers good facilities for a wide range of indoor and outdoor sports: swimming, golf, real tennis and sailing are just a

few of those available. Warwick Hospital has its own squash court available for members of staff and their families. There are extensive cultural facilities in Stratford-upon-Avon, Coventry and Birmingham.

The central position of Warwick and the excellent transport infrastructure brings more than 50% of England within two hours travel. Birmingham International airport is 25 minutes drive away. London is

90 minutes by direct rail link.

THE TRUST

South Warwickshire General Hospitals NHS Trust provides acute and maternity services to a population of 270,000. The catchment area covers Warwick, Leamington Spa, Stratford-upon-Avon and rural South Warwickshire. Warwick Hospital performs approximately 14,000 operations per annum. The Trust manages two hospitals, Warwick Hospital and Stratford-upon-Avon Hospital:

Warwick Hospital – about 360 beds servicing:

- Paediatrics •
- Ophthalmology
-
- ENT •
- Colorectal
-
- Maxillo-facial Dental •
- General Surgery
-
- General Medicine (including Care of the Elderly) •
- Vascular Surgery
-
- Cardiology •
- Breast Surgery
-
- Gastro-intestinal Medicine •
- Urology
-
- Haematology •
- ICU
-
- Dermatology •
- CCU
-
- Diabetes •
- A & E Department
-
- Orthopaedics •
- Obstetrics and Gynaecology
-
- Main operating suite with 5 theatres •
- Acute Pain Service
-
- Day Surgery Unit with 4 theatres •
- Endoscopy
- Out-patient services are also offered for:
-
- Chronic Pain •
- GU Medicine
-
- Stoma Care •
- Breast Care
-
- Orthotics •
- Orthodontics
-
- Radiotherapy Visiting consultants from
-
- Neurology University Hospital
-
- Neurosurgery Coventry & Warwickshire
-
- Plastic Surgery Visiting consultant from Nuneaton

These are supported by:

Imaging Department; this includes conventional and contrast radiology, ultrasound, CT, Cardiac Catheter suite and mobile MRI.

Pathology Department (including Bacteriology, Biochemistry, Haematology, and Histopathology).
Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Chiropody, Speech Therapy, Dietetics, Medical Measurement Department, Social Services and Clinical Psychology.
Stratford-upon-Avon Hospital

The hospital at Stratford-upon Avon houses a Minor Injuries Unit, and a Local Surgery Unit facilitates surgery under local anaesthesia. Additionally, there is a 27-bedded General Practitioner ward, Outpatient department, Physiotherapy unit and X-ray facilities. The Trust has ambitions to expand ambulatory care on this site.

Medical School

Warwick is one of the teaching hospitals for Warwick Medical School. Students attend the hospital as part of their introductory period and for extended attachments to “Consultant Partnerships”, which include consultant anaesthetists. The Anaesthetic Department is involved in both these aspects of medical student teaching.

Study and Library Facilities

There is an excellent library at Warwick Hospital in the Medical Training Centre. Further library facilities are available at the Clinical Sciences Building at University Hospital Coventry & Warwickshire or from the University Library, Warwick University.

Trainees are encouraged to participate in postgraduate studies, which include weekly teaching sessions and multi-disciplinary meetings in the Post-Graduate Education Centre.

ANAESTHETIC DEPARTMENT

The Anaesthetic Department is part of the Directorate of Surgical Specialities linking to the Hospital Management Board through the Associate Medical Director for Surgery, Mr R Jackson (O&G).
Administrative roles within the department are:

Chairman Clinical Governance J H L Antrobus
RCoA Tutor Education A M Wright
Service Provision Duty rota M Sebastian
ITU Director Intensive Care Unit Vacancy
Assistant General Manager Administration F Stevens
Department Co-ordinator Administrative Support K Greenwood
Department Secretary Administrative Support A Phazey

The Department conducts a business meeting on the first Friday of each month attended by all anaesthetists followed by an Educational Supervisors’ meeting. All permanently employed doctors are members of the Medical Staff Committee which meets every two months.

The Anaesthetic Department is situated between main operating theatres and ICU in a Nucleus Hospital template. The Department is accommodated in a suite of five offices and a seminar/sitting room. There are networked PCs with intra-net and web access. The Obstetric Unit, ICU, operating theatres and surgical wards adjoin the Anaesthetic Department.

Anaesthetists run the ICU, obstetric anaesthetic and epidural service, chronic pain clinic, acute pain service and Day Surgery Centre. An ICU Outreach team operates from 0800 – 2100 hours seven days a week. There is a Clinical Nurse Manager for ICU and Theatres Services and Clinical Nurse Specialists for Acute and Chronic Pain. Non clinical support includes an Anaesthetic Co-ordinator, Anaesthetic Secretary / Pain Clinic secretary.

The Anaesthetic Department forms part of the Warwickshire School of Anaesthetics within the West Midlands Workforce Deanery. The Department has Royal College of Anaesthetists Schedule I recognition. The Trainee establishment is changing as a result of Modernising Medical Careers. The Department expects to be allocated five anaesthetists in training years 3 – 7 and at least 5 doctors in training years 1 – 2. Further implementation of the European Working Time Directive (EWTD), coupled with the Heads of Agreement on Junior Doctors Hours and training recommendations from the Royal Colleges, require that trainees' on-call duties do not exceed a frequency of 1 in 10 to ensure compliance.

ANAESTHETIC SERVICE

Consultant Staff

Dr S P Mather Anaesthetist / Trust Medical Director

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Dr D A Robinson Obstetric Anaesthesia & Analgesia / AAGBI Linkman

•

Dr J H L Antrobus Chronic Pain / Department Chairman / MSC Chairman

•

Dr J M Aulakh Consultant Anaesthetist (Retiring)

•

Dr TM W Long ICU/ICNARC/CBTICM Linkman/Paediatric Anaesthesia

•

Dr I A Hall Audit / Critical incident Co-ordinator

•

Dr E White Consultant Anaesthetist

•

Dr S A J Crighton Colorectal Anaesthetist

•

Dr D Bose ICU / Multidisciplinary Audit

•

Dr S J Thorpe ICU

•

Dr A M Wright Pre-Operative Assessment Clinic / College Tutor

•

Dr V Pánek Acute Pain Service

•

Dr M Sebastian Deputy Chairman/ Rota Administrator/Medical School Liaison

•

Dr B J Ward Lead Anaesthetist for Day Surgery/Intranet Page Webmaster

•

Dr I Suri Obstetric Anaesthesia & Analgesia

Other Anaesthetic Staff

2 Associate Specialists

•

8 Staff Grades

•

5 ST3-7 Anaesthesia (Warwickshire School of Anaesthesia)

•

3 CT2 Anaesthesia

•

2 CT1 Anaesthesia

•

1 ST2 Acute Care Common Stem

ANAESTHETIC FACILITIES

Theatre: The main theatre suite contains five theatres and anaesthetic rooms and is equipped with networked Datex monitors in anaesthetic rooms and theatres. There is a large recovery area staffed by specialist recovery nurses. Anaesthetic machines have recently been upgraded to the GE S/5 Avance Workstation.

Day Surgery Centre: four theatres with GE S/5 Avance workstations, recovery and step-down area.

ICU/HDU: The Anaesthetic Department's work schedule currently allocates 10 consultant sessions per week to Intensive Care Medicine. These are to be shared between five consultants with a special interest in intensive therapy. The unit has 7 beds, 6 ventilators and 2 haemofiltration machines. It is staffed with 5 nurses per shift and admission numbers are influenced by dependency. A maximum of 5 patients can be ventilated (level 3) but up to 7 patients can be admitted if dependency levels are lower (level 2). A Clinical Nurse Manager heads the nursing staff and a nurse holding ENB 100 always supervises the unit. Care bundles are in use. There are approximately 450 admissions per annum.

ICU Outreach: Experienced critical care nurses are available 08.00 -21.00h to advise on fluid, oxygen, non-invasive ventilation and treatment of potentially critically ill patients on general wards. The Outreach team works closely with the Acute Pain Service, and can access advice from the on-call anaesthetic team.

Obstetric Unit: Five consultant sessions per week are allocated to OA&A. Both lead consultants offer an Obstetric Anaesthetic Assessment Clinic service, to which midwives, obstetricians or GPs can make referrals. The delivery suite is adjacent to the Anaesthetic Department. In 2008 there were 2,713 deliveries maintaining a gentle upward trend. A 24-hour epidural service is offered with an uptake of 39%. Low dose bupivacaine-fentanyl infusion has been used for labour epidurals since 1992. Patient-controlled remifentanyl analgesia for labour is used occasionally. The Caesarean Section rate is 25%. In 2008, of the 310 elective caesareans, 99% were performed under spinal anaesthesia. Of the 378 emergency caesareans, 14% were given general anaesthesia.

Chronic Pain Relief Clinic: Two consultants and a clinical nurse specialist deliver The Chronic Pain service in close co-operation with the Clinical Psychology service and Physiotherapy Department. It is an outpatient service offering assessment and day-stay interventions. The Backtrac Clinic is a GP-led multidisciplinary triage service for back pain with access to the Back-in-Action functional restoration programme. Support is provided to palliative care services at Myton Hospice.

Acute Pain Service: A Clinical Nurse Specialist runs the service with consultant support. The service has introduced the systematic observation and charting of pain, sedation and nausea and vomiting scores throughout the Surgical Unit. Patient controlled analgesia using Baxter® fixed performance disposable devices is practised widely. Epidural infusion analgesia using Baxter® infusion controllers is currently practised on the surgical wards using a standard protocol.

Teaching and Audit: The Anaesthetic Department forms part of the Warwickshire School of Anaesthetics. Trainees are appointed by the West Midlands Workforce Deanery. Trainees in years 3/7 attend the Final FRCA course at the Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry, throughout university terms. The Warwick consultants lecture regularly on this course. Trainees in years 1/2 attend the Primary FRCA course at University Hospital, Birmingham. Anaesthetists in training are encouraged to attend local or regional courses and meetings as appropriate.

Teaching within the Department is undertaken at various times during the week on an informal basis, with a formal meeting at 1 p.m. on Fridays, usually preceded by a buffet lunch. A Departmental audit meeting is held at 2 p.m. on the first Friday of each month; all anaesthetists are expected to attend. A Critical Incident Reporting System is in place. The Medical Training Centre provides a venue for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. There are excellent library facilities and seminar rooms with audio-visual aids. Many anaesthetic journals are available within the Department of Anaesthesia.

CONTINUING COVER FOR ANAESTHETIC SERVICES

Consultants participate in a single on-call rota. The on-call team is led by the Consultant and deployed according to skill-mix as best meets clinical demand. Anaesthetists in training are allocated to duties consistent with their training requirements.

Three levels of competence are defined:

- level 1 -RCoA Initial Assessment of Competency – Core Trainee with three months+experience
- level 2 -Certificate of Completion of SHO Training or equivalent, i.e. competent in Obstetric Anaesthesia & Analgesia and Intensive Care Medicine at entry-level for Specialist Training Year 3
- level 3 -Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) – Consultant

The rota is constructed to ensure that, at all times:

- three anaesthetists are available
- at least two are competent at level 2 or above
- at least one is competent at level 3

To construct the rota, staff may be drawn from:

- anaesthetists in training – frequency 1:10
- staff-grade anaesthetists – frequency 1:8
- consultants, non-resident, low-frequency band A

The Department has always maintained a high level of Consultant involvement in night and weekend work. The Department is currently developing the role of the Duty Consultant to raise the priority of NCEPOD and Trauma surgery during elective working hours.