

## CDU ADMISSION GUIDELINES

### Guiding Principles:

- The Clinical Decisions Unit is part of the Emergency Department
- It is managed by the Consultants, Matrons and 'Nurse in Charge' of the Emergency Department. It will be a joint decision between the Consultant/Lead Registrar and the NIC jointly as to who can be admitted to the CDU.
- No manager or clinician of any grade from any other speciality has admitting rights to the CDU
- Any patient for whom the episode of care will likely take > 12 hours is not appropriate for the CDU
- No patient of any speciality other than Emergency Medicine will go there
- Maximum of 2 patients overnight for OT/PT (ideally these patients should go to the Frailty Unit on AAU if they have beds)

**The above principles will be upheld when the ED and the Trust is operating under normal circumstances and not under special management conditions (eg: escalation protocols for winter pressures/internal incident/divert)**

The principles above may be deviated from in the above circumstances on **DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE CONSULTANTS, MATRONS AND ON CALL** and **BED MANAGERS** on a **CASE BY CASE BASIS**. The **SPECIALITY REGISTRAR OR CONSULTANT INVOLVED MUST** also be made **aware of their out-lying patients**. In these circumstances, it will be optimal to **keep 2 beds free in CDU** for the ED to continue the management of certain patients despite maximal bed occupancy in the rest of the trust the following day. The following two principles are **NEVER** to be deviated from:

- ALL PATIENTS WHO GO THERE TO HAVE THE CDU HANDOVER FORM ON CRS COMPLETED and remain the responsibility of the doctor who admits there unless clearly documented and communicated handover of patient care. The name of the Consultant and NIC authorising **MUST** be documented
- Anyone choosing to go against these principles regarding documentation or admission/exclusion criteria without express discussion or mandate will be responsible for any untoward incident that occurs for that patient in the CDU

### Absolute Exclusion:

- Any patient who cannot mobilise with the minimal assistance of 1 person
- Any patient with an oxygen requirement
- Any patient with a communicable illness (flu, diarrhoea and vomiting)
- Any patient with a NEWS > 3, or, 2 or more in any one parameter
- Any patient with any kind of confusion state
- Abdominal pain in patients > 50 years old
- Chest pain with elevated troponin
- Any elevated troponin
- Any patient who may be reasonably anticipated to have a seizure
- Any patient with a head injury which is NICE compliant for CT who has not had that CT scan done and looked at by the consultant
- Any intoxicated patient

**Criteria:**

- Patients on stretchers awaiting transport home with no medical needs can be moved there to wait for hospital arranged transport
- Any ED, not speciality, patient (without presence of exclusion factors) for whom a diagnostic result will influence a clinical decision for admission under speciality or discharge home can be admitted to CDU awaiting the result of the test with a clear plan (ie the differentials considered are safe to go there – not a patient for whom diagnosis is unclear)
- Any patients admitted to CDU for any reason who are > 75 years of age must have a resuscitation status discussion and a red form completed, or not as the case may be
- Patients requiring OT/PT may be admitted up until 1400. This can be exceeded for a maximum of 2 patients
- Any patients fitting the criteria for CDU pathways (to be discussed/confirmed – low-risk CP, renal colic, urinary retention, new stable AF, SAH rule out)

**CDU HANDOVER FORM on CRS: (search for CDU in preconfigured template tab in documents)**

Date and Time:

**AUTHORISING CONSULTANT:**

**ED NURSE IN CHARGE:**

**ED Clerking Doctor:**

**Doctor continuing care on CDU:**

**Presenting complaint:**

**Provisional Diagnosis:**

Investigations Performed and Results so far:

Investigations Performed but results pending review:

Investigations still to be performed:

**CDU PLAN (including time of next review):**

Estimated Length of Stay in CDU: < 4 hours    4-8 hours    8-12 hours