

...staff Counselling

A private confidential service is provided. This service includes one on one counselling, group facilitation, coaching, de-briefing, conflict resolution and team building.

...facilities

There is a well stocked reference library in the unit for all DCCM staff. The unit has three computers for staff to use, including internet access.

In the tea-room the unit provides tea, coffee etc, there is also a microwave. As the canteen for staff closes for hot food at 19.00 hrs for night staff there is bread provided for toast.

...social

There are regular social events throughout the year, 50 year celebrations ball, family picnic in the park, birthday party celebrations, any excuse for a night. Also team entry to Round the bays and the OXFAM walk.

...the job

Nursing cover is provided by a roster whereby a Charge nurse covers each 8 or 12 hour period, and a team of Registered nurses provides care on a 24 hr basis. There is a 1:1 for intensive care patients and 1:2 for HDU. Each RN is responsible for assessing, planning, implementing and co-ordinating care over his/her shift and liaising with the Charge Nurse and Medical Staff over specific points of care as required. It is also policy that we help the other wards in the hospital by going on pool to these areas if staffing exceeds patient numbers.

...shifts

There is a choice of either 8 or 12hr shifts. Full time 12hr shifts is 10 shifts in three weeks, on 8hrs it is 5 per week. Usually an equal number of nights and days though this can vary.

12hr Shifts: Day: 07.00 – 19.30

Night: 19.00 – 07.30

8hr shifts: Am: 07.00 – 15.30

PM: 14.30 – 23.00. Night: 22.45 – 07.15

It may be possible to reduce working hours on completion of orientation either .9 (36hrs a fortnight) down to .4 (48 hours in a three week period). This will depend on the staffing needs of the unit.

The roster is to be completed in 4wklly instalments, usually 5-6 weeks in advance. There is a request system in place to help facilitate rostering.

...accommodation

There is a small staff residence at Greenlane Hospital, a short free shuttle bus ride to Auckland City Hospital

Contact Margaret Smart re bookings & costs

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...with thanks to J. Chadderton for her valuable input



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Contact

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DCCM
Department of Critical Care
Medicine

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision: To be the leader in New Zealand intensive care

Mission: To provide leadership in the care of the seriously ill patients at Auckland Hospital

To provide an international standard of excellence in the care of patients in the Department of Critical Care Medicine.

The following information describes some of the main features of our team and our working environment. Hopefully it will give you a guideline of what we are all about.

...the environment

DCCM is a nominal 18 bed unit which at this time is limited to 14 available beds, plus 4 HDU beds.

It is an adult only unit, 15th Birthday and older, medical, surgical, transplant, and trauma intensive care service. DCCM also provides a tertiary referral service to areas outside Auckland including Northland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty regions and the Pacific Islands.

...the people

There is a Unit Nurse Manager who works closely with a team consisting of the Clinical Nurse Specialist (outreach), two Clinical Nurse Educators and the six Clinical Charge Nurses. We also have two research nurses.

There are 70 full time equivalent RN's. Staff come from all over the world, all contributing in a unique way with knowledge and skills from varied backgrounds and cultures.

All patients are admitted under the team of six Intensivists. Patients are managed by, and are the direct responsibility of the Intensivists. The Intensivists consult with other medical teams as appropriate for the care of the individual patient. An Intensivist covers the unit for a 24hr period. There is a team of seven registrars.

...education

We have monthly unit study days, weekly inservice, and support post graduate nursing studies. Our two educators provide clinical education at the bedside.

...orientation

Our orientation programme has allocated clinical workload sharing during 8 – 10 weeks depending on the previous experience of the new staff member. A Competency workbook is provided. We offer new graduate orientation to ICU, twice yearly intakes.

...support staff

We have a resident technical expert for equipment maintenance, upgrades and problem solving. All of these services have a night on call system.. For each shift we also have an orderly to help with all turns, lifts and taking patients off the floor to CT, Angio, MRI etc. and a health care assistant Mon – Friday.

...equipment

The type of equipment used is: Primsa®CRRT, Servo 300®, Oxylogs®, Alaris® infusion pumps, Fisher & Paykel® humidifiers, Blanketrol 11® warming / cooling blanket, Codman® ICP monitors, Mankette® monitors, pulmonary artery monitoring, nitric oxide.

...the patient population

Total admissions per year between 997-1070. Trauma, elective post operative cases, Neuro surgical, head trauma, poisonings, sepsis, multi organ failure, post cardiac arrests, liver

transplantation, renal, renal and pancreas transplantation, continuous renal replacement therapy.

...Survivors follow up clinic

The nurse run clinic runs for two days per week, relying on telephone contact with discharged patients. An introduction and then a discussion about their quality of life and expectations generated by data collection form are the main tool used. Any problems that arise from these interviews are referred to the appropriate areas or agencies. Memories of DCCM and the care given are discussed, and regular feedback is provided to the staff in DCCM, either individually or as an updated report covering a few months obtained from these follow ups.

...bereavement follow up

Since 1995 there has been a nurse run follow up service which contacts by phone the next of kin of those who have died in DCCM 4 – 6 weeks earlier. A group of eight nurses are involved. They send out initial support information a week after the death letting relatives know they will receive a call in the coming weeks. This is a rostered shift per week to offer condolences, answer questions and see how they are doing. Referrals are often made at this point. A letter of thanks for their time is sent, as well as a support book about grief. A year after the death an anniversary card is sent to let the families know we still care.

...peer support Team

This group of voluntary staff is available to provide colleagues with a non judgemental, informal and confidential peer support network. A bridge over troubled waters, with a rainbow as their logo on their name badges. Twice each month there are Support Breaks with the staff counsellor facilitating. These sessions are to explore any particular issues and will always remain confidential.