

Contacting Medical Staff

Patients are cared for by a team of doctors (specialist, registrar, intern). The registrar is responsible for day-to-day management, with the specialist supervising overall patient care.

Specialist ward rounds generally occur twice a week, with daily weekday rounds led by the registrar. The specialist and / or registrar will review patients more often if clinically needed.

If you would like to talk to the medical team please let nursing staff or the ward clerk know. If the doctors are not available at that time, another time can be arranged, or you can leave your phone number and one of the doctors will call you.

It is helpful if there is a main "spokesperson" to discuss progress with the doctors. It is generally not possible to have multiple meetings or return calls from many people. Family conferences are an opportunity for many people to attend and discuss progress with all members of the team.

Please understand that while we try to meet at appointed times and return calls promptly, this may be difficult if there is an emergency. We also understand it might not be possible for you to wait for us. If you are unable to wait please let the ward staff know, so other arrangements can be made.

Helpful Tips

If dentures, glasses, hearing aids or walking aids are used, please bring them to the hospital.

Patients involved in physiotherapy programs benefit from having day clothes and appropriate shoes.

Ward Information

Hospital phone number (02) 9738 3000

Aged Care Unit Ward phone numbers
(02) 9738 7500 (02) 9738 7510

Meal times (approximate)
Breakfast ~ 8am
Lunch ~ 12md
Dinner ~ 5pm

Visiting hours ~ 10am-1pm & 3pm-8pm
(In special circumstances visiting hours can be extended after discussion with the nurse-in-charge)

Other Useful Numbers

Triple I (Hub) Referral Service
(including referral for aged care assessment in the community)

1800 455 511

Carer Resource Centre 1800 242 636

Carer Respite Centre
(assistance with emergency and short term respite for carers)

1800 059 059

Community Transport 4629 6888

Dementia Helpline 1800 100 500

Welcome to the Aged Care Unit, Liverpool Hospital

*An acute care unit
specialising in the
care of older people*



Health
South Western Sydney
Local Health District

Objectives of the Aged Care Unit

- To provide patients with safe, individualised, appropriate and supportive care.
- To perform comprehensive multidisciplinary assessments to clarify problems, make accurate diagnoses and develop an appropriate treatment plan.
- To encourage patients to become as independent as possible and achieve an optimum lifestyle within limitations due to illnesses and treatment requirements, respecting the principles of autonomy.
- To assist patients in achieving their maximum physical, functional and cognitive (memory and thinking capacity) potential.
- To promote positive attitudes towards the care of older people requiring acute hospital management, thereby maintaining their dignity and self-respect.
- To improve links between the hospital and other health and community services.
- To provide education concerning Geriatric Medicine and clinical treatment of older people to students, junior medical, nursing and allied health staff.
- To conduct and participate in quality improvement activities, ensuring our patients receive a high quality service.
- To ensure equity of care for patients in our community, and to respect cultural values.

The Aged Care Unit Team

Staff on the Aged Care Unit form a multidisciplinary team. Each team member has an equal and valued contribution into developing the care plan for each patient admitted to our unit.



• Nurses

Nurses on the Aged Care Unit include registered, enrolled and undergraduate nurses. They assess each patient's needs and provide day-to-day care. The nurse-in-charge is generally the best person with whom to raise any unresolved patient-related concerns or issues.

• Doctors

The medical team perform a comprehensive medical assessment. Appropriate tests are organised and a plan of care is developed. Medical conditions are diagnosed and treated with input from other team members, the patient's local doctor (GP), the patient and their family / carers.

• Neuropsychologist

Neuropsychologists help to identify a patient's cognitive strengths and weaknesses. This information can assist in diagnosis and to help form an individualised care plan for a patient.

• Pharmacist

Pharmacists review medications during admission. They provide education and medication charts to patients and carers / families, particularly at discharge.

• Dietitian

Dietitians assess patient's nutritional requirements and plan a suitable diet. They provide education regarding any dietary changes which may be required following discharge.

• Occupational Therapist

Occupational therapists provide assessment and therapy to patients who have difficulties with activities of daily living. They may recommend equipment and / or modifications to the home and assist in training in activities of daily living.

• Physiotherapist

Physiotherapists assist patients to achieve their maximum level of function, using exercise and mobility programs.

• Social Worker

Social workers support patients and their carers / families in dealing with illness, trauma and hospitalisation. They attend to emotional, psychological and social needs. In preparing a patient for discharge from hospital, social workers can provide information on residential care options (hostels and nursing homes) and community support services.

• Speech Pathologist

Speech pathologists diagnose and manage people who have communication and / or swallowing difficulties. They provide support and education on how to best manage these problems.