

RADIOLOGY THEATRES

What is Radiology Theatres?

In Radiology Theatres we use x-rays to assist with a variety of procedures, both diagnostic and treatment of many conditions, through minimally invasive techniques.

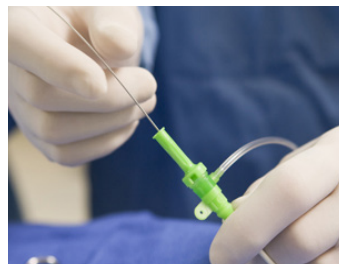
Who are we?

Radiology Theatres is the home of Interventional Radiology and remains the fastest developing area of healthcare. With the introduction of the Leeds Major Trauma Centre and Regional Mechanical Thrombectomy Service has placed the service and team at the forefront of life-saving and life-changing treatments and interventions.

The Radiology Nursing team works within a close knit, multi-disciplinary team that includes Radiographers, Interventional Radiologists, Radiology Support Workers and Radiographic Assistants.

Where are we?

There are 3 departments within the Trust. Two at St. James University Hospital, one of which is Interventional Ultrasound and one at Leeds General Infirmary.



What to expect from us...

- Provide you with an allocated clinical mentor.
- A supernumerary period to aid learning and skill development.
- Regular 1-on-1 support.
- Access to external courses and study days to develop your knowledge and skills.
- Skill and role development : we will aid in the development of clinical skills, scrub technique, first assistant training during procedures, cannulation, care of acutely ill patients, administration competence in conscious sedation, surgical count training, theatre system training and mentorship training.
- Career development opportunities.

What are the advantages for nurses in Interventional Radiology?

- High variety of speciality work including vascular, neurosurgical, medical, surgical, hepato-renal, haematology, urology and respiratory.
- Support for training and development from within and beyond the Trust from companies to attend study days and conferences.
- Society support such as SIRNR (Society of Interventional Radiology Nurses and Radiographers) and BSIR (British Society of Interventional Radiology).
- Working pattern Monday to Friday 08:00 to 17:00 with evenings, weekends and bank holidays covered by on-call duties (following completion of competency assessment and review). Enhancement of pay for on call duties in accordance with Working Time Directives.

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An Interventional Radiology Nurses typical daily activities...

Scrubbing in the Theatre

- Preparing the sterile procedure trolley.
- Supporting the Interventional Radiologist during the procedures.
- Preparing and handling all interventional catheters, wires, balloons, coils, embolisation products, stents and filters.
- Preparing and handling medications on the procedure trolley.

Circulating in Theatre

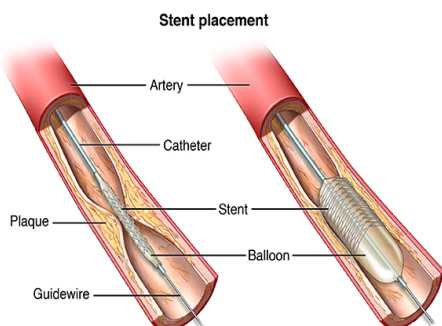
- Safely transferring the patient from recovery to the theatre and back again at the end of the intervention
- Monitoring and recording the patients vital signs and ensuring they are comfortable, responding appropriately to changes in their condition.
- Handling equipment and medication and passing these to the sterile scrub nurse.
- Administering IV medication, blood products and conscious sedation.

Working in Recovery

- Welcoming patients to the department completing procedural checks.
- Ensuring that the patient is properly prepared for theatre.
- Preparing and administering any pre-procedure medications
- Receiving patients back from the theatre and monitoring vital signs.
- Safely removing arterial and venous sheaths.

Common Interventional Radiology Procedures

- Angioplasty and stenting - inflation of balloons in blood vessels in any part of the body and leaving stents in position to prevent stenosis.
- Embolisation - using glues and metal coils in blood vessels anywhere in the body including the brain to control or prevent further haemorrhage.
- Chemo-embolisation - the delivery of chemotherapy directly into tumours.
- Radio-embolisation - the use of radioactive materials delivered directly into tumours to destroy them.
- Ablation - the use of radio frequency waves or ice or microwaves directly into tumours to destroy them.
- Thrombolysis - the breakdown and removal of blood clots.
- Filter insertion - the insertion of filters into the Inferior Vena Cava to prevent pulmonary embolism.
- Line insertion - the insertion of tunnelled venous access lines.
- Plus many more procedures.



For further information please contact Senior Charge Nurse Ian Medicott - ian.medlicott@nhs.net

Further resources: RCN - Guidelines for Nursing Care in Interventional Radiology, Second Ed