

Emergency room

Students should use this placement to maximise their understanding of the particular needs of women accessing services in the Emergency Room. For some students this may be considered a community placement

Aim

To orientate midwifery students to the Emergency Room and Triage Services and to enable them to participate in the care of women accessing these services.

Students are expected to reach **Participation/ Identification /Internalisation** level in relevant **Performance Criteria** on order to achieving aspects or completion of their **Midwifery Competencies**. BSc students should achieve clinical skills relevant to the area. All students should gain experience of **Antenatal Assessments, including abdominal palpation** for the **Clinical Practice Experience** book (EU/ABA requirements)

All care provided is under the direct supervision of a registered midwife

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the placement the midwifery student will:

- Become familiar with the concept and implementation of triage for pregnant woman experiencing
 - Active labour
 - Vaginal bleeding
 - Pain
- Assess pregnant woman on admission to unit
 - General well being
 - Assessment - temperature, blood pressure, pulse, urinalysis abdominal palpation and vaginal examination (VE) as appropriate if in labour
 - Uterine contractions and coping ability if in labour
 - Monitor fetal well being - Fetal activity, Fetal heart Pinard, Doppler and CTG
 - Interpret findings
- Recognise the onset of labour and demonstrate an ability to offer care and support to women in early labour
- Accurately document details of assessment and any care given
- Become familiar with the indications for admission to the ward, Birthing Suite or discharge home

Facilitation of opportunities to observe and participate in the care of the woman experiencing:

- Ectopic pregnancy
- Bleeding in early pregnancy
 - Use of Anti D immunoglobulin as appropriate (Rh Neg)
- Ante-partum haemorrhage (A.P.H)
 - Placenta praevia and placenta abruption
- Pre-Eclampsia (Toxaemia) (P.E.T)
- Urinary tract infection (U.T.I.)
- Symphysis pubis dysfunction
- Polyhydramnios/oligohydramnios
- Multiple pregnancy
- Preterm labour
 - Use of dexamethasone as appropriate
- Prelabour premature rupture of membranes (P.P.R.O.M)
- Postnatal complications
- Gynaecological problems

This list is not exhaustive and will reflect unit activity during the placement.

Prior to the placement the midwifery student must have knowledge and understanding of:

Early pregnancy conditions: pain and bleeding early pregnancy, ectopic pregnancy

Pregnancy complications

Early labour

Postnatal complications