

# INTRODUCTION OF THE CRITICAL CARE OUTREACH SERVICE IN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL WATERFORD



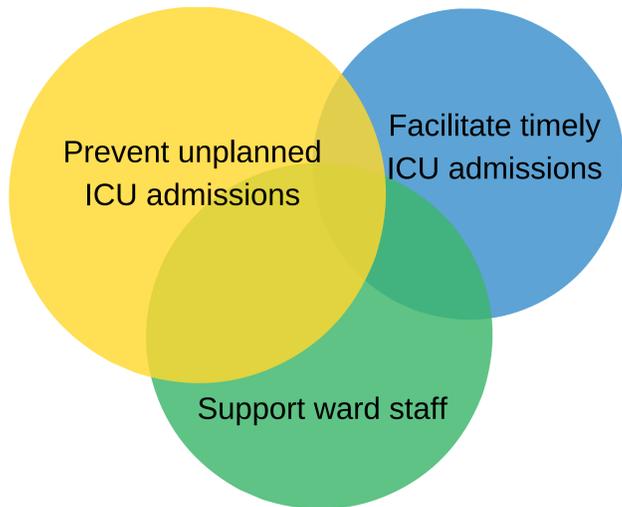
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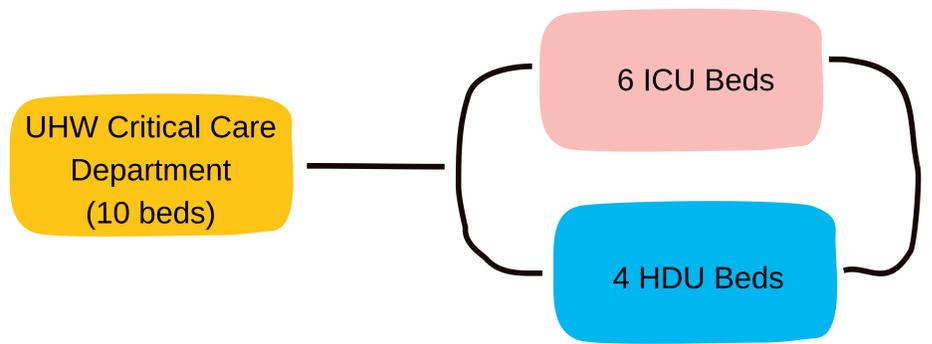
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## INTRODUCTION

Traditionally, critical care was provided exclusively within intensive care units (ICU). However, the last two decades has seen the concept of Critical Care Outreach (CCO) develop to extend critical care expertise beyond the ICU walls.



Aims of the Critical Care Outreach Service



UHW Critical Care Department Beds

## METHODOLOGY

The Critical Care Outreach Team (CCOT) is a new service introduced in University Hospital Waterford (UHW). There are two CCO Candidate Advanced Nurse Practitioners (cANPs), under the mentorship of ICU Consultants.

The first phase of the service introduction, which commenced in June 2023, includes following-up patients discharged from Critical Care to the wards.

These patients are logged in the CCOT Logbook and are reviewed at the earliest opportunity, ideally within 24 hours of discharge. Findings are relayed to the bedside nurse and/or the nurse-in-charge. If there are specific concerns, these are communicated to the primary team and/or to the ICU doctors. Patient reviews are discussed with the ICU Consultant-on-Duty and a decision is made to either re-review the patient or to discharge the patient from the service.

## RESULTS

Below is the data of the CCOT Service from June to August 2023.

	June	July	August
Number of Patients Reviewed	33	39	38
Episodes of Care	68	102	96

## DISCUSSION

Though the CCOT Service is in its infancy, there has been positive impact for the patient care post Critical Care discharge as the service filled in the gap in the transfer of care to the ward.

## CONCLUSION



Currently, there are 2 cANPs undertaking the training to become Registered ANPs. Upon registration, service provision to the discharged patients from Critical Care will continue. Subsequent meetings with the stakeholders will help shape the service and cater to the organisational needs, especially in the care of deteriorating patients. This includes optimising patient care at ward level or facilitating timely Critical Care admission, and empowering ward staff and members of the multi-disciplinary team.