

Cardiac Liaison Nurse

Created and implemented by the
Cardiology Department at
Liverpool Hospital in May 2006



Summary of Role

- Facilitates optimal management of cardiac patients in the Emergency Department (ED)
- Facilitates rapid access to Exercise Stress Testing (EST) for appropriate patients presenting to ED with chest pain
- Facilitates efficient patient flow from the ED to cardiac clinical areas (including CCU, Cardiac Catheter Lab and the cardiology ward).
- Liaises with patients & their families regarding admission processes & provides information related to admission, diagnostic tests & clinical condition
- Provides an educational resource for nursing & medical staff in the ED

Why implement this role?

- To improve the hospital experience for patients presenting to ED with chest pain
- To improve access to EST
- To reduce unnecessary admissions
- To better utilise inpatient cardiology beds
- To reduce ED access block

Contact

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Impact of role

- In the 16 months since implementation, 684 exercise stress tests have been conducted in the ED. 572 patients (84%) were discharged directly from the ED, reducing length of hospital stay & negating the need for an inpatient cardiology bed.
- Other benefits of this position include improved communication & patient flow between ED and the cardiology clinical areas, improved quality of nursing handover in relation to cardiac admissions and transfers & increased opportunities for education & support of both patients & staff in the ED