

# Nursing and midwifery training on medical equipment



Title:			
Nursing and Midwifery Training on medical equipment			
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## Version Control

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## 1.0 Purpose

The aim of the guideline is to provide guidance on a consistent training approach across NHS Lothian (NHSL) in medical equipment education and training and to outline the specific roles and responsibilities of senior staff, qualified staff, student nurses and midwives, bank and agency staff.

This is a supporting guideline to the NHSL Medical Devices Policy. It has been written by the NHS Lothian Clinical Education and Training Department in conjunction with the Medical Devices Committee.

## 2.0 Scope

This guideline applies to medical equipment training for nursing staff working in NHSL in acute and community services. It applies to all NHS Lothian Nursing and Midwifery Services including student nurses and midwives, bank and agency nurses.

## 3.0 Definitions

NQP is Newly Qualified Practitioner

IVID is intravenous therapy and infusion device course

eESS is Electronic Employee Support System

NHSL is National Health Service Lothian

AEI is Approved Education Institutions

QMU is Queen Margaret University

## 4.0 Roles and responsibilities

### 4.1 Clinical Nurse Managers

Clinical Nurse Managers are responsible for ensuring that appropriate processes are in place to confirm that nurses and midwives are trained on the equipment they use. They are expected to be involved in any new medical equipment installations to ensure there is adequate clinical engagement and to provide local leadership and problem-solving skills if difficulties arise.

### 4.2 Senior Nursing Staff

Charge Nurses and Midwives will verify that all staff are trained on the equipment they use in the clinical area they work in. They should ensure this guidance is adhered to and a clear record of training and education is kept on the Healthroster or relevant database specific to the clinical area.

### 4.3 Qualified Nursing Staff

All qualified nursing staff have a professional responsibility to ensure they engage in equipment training and are competent to use the equipment in their clinical environment. They can use equipment when directly supervised by a competent trainer when they are learning to use new equipment. They have a responsibility for completing any relevant competencies on such equipment. They are responsible for ensuring they keep their equipment training up to date including any refresher training.

### 4.4 Bank and agency staff

Bank and agency nursing staff have a professional responsibility to keep their equipment training up to date. They are responsible for informing the Charge Nurse if there is any equipment that they have not been trained on. They must engage in any equipment training offered at ward level.

### 4.5 Equipment Super-users

All departments should have allocated super-users of specialised medical equipment so they can deliver training for new appointments and refresher training for staff who are returning from career breaks or other extended leave.

## 5.0 Main content and evidence base

### 5.1 New appointments to NHS Lothian

All nurses and midwives should read the NHSL Medical Device Policy found on the following link [Medical Devices Policy \(nhslothian.scot\)](#)

It is the responsibility of the Charge Nurse to ensure staff have read and understood the Medical Devices Policy. The charge nurse will ensure that staff have received initial training on all medical devices within their clinical department.

Initial training can be accessed through a variety of means. For example, initial training on infusion devices such as the BBraun SpacePlus and McKinley T34 is taught on clinical education programmes accessed through eESS. Company specialist educators can also provide initial training on specialist equipment.

Student nurses and midwives from approved education institutions (AEI) should have completed training in intravenous infusion devices as part three of their nursing or midwifery training as per Future Nurse and Midwife Agenda. Once a nurse is qualified and appointed to a clinical area, it is the responsibility of the senior nurse or midwife to establish whether the newly qualified nurse or midwife has received initial training on infusion devices which is appropriate to the clinical area. If further training is required it should be arranged, keeping patient safety as the priority.

If no evidence of training from the AEI is presented, the newly qualified staff must be booked on the Intravenous Therapy and Infusion Device (IVID) course on eESS.

Powered infusion devices will be taught on the IVID course; however, it is the responsibility of the charge nurse to ensure the practitioner undertakes and successfully completes an initial competency. Initial Competencies can be found on the following link

[NHSL Clinical Skills Webpage](#)

Ensuring that staff are trained on specialised equipment such as ventilators, anaesthetic machines will be the responsibility of the charge nurse. The departments should liaise with the relevant product company specialist and ensure a training guidance, competency and/or standard operating procedure are available for all staff to access, and staff are assessed to ensure they are competent to safely use the medical device. If there is difficulty establishing contact with a company specialist, medical physics can be contacted to help with establishing contact.

## 5.2 Student nurses and midwives

From March 2022, Queen Margaret University (QMU) and Edinburgh University have trained their final year nursing and midwifery students on specific medical infusion devices. Napier University and other education institutions will commence infusion device training in March 2023. Student nurses and midwives should always work under direct supervision of a registered nurse or midwife who is competent on infusion devices. The student nurse or midwife will be expected to work through the NHSL student proficiency on the device under direct supervision of a registered practitioner. Once qualified, they must achieve an NHSL competency.

## 5.3 New equipment training

It is the responsibility of the Charge Nurse to allocate several nurses or midwives as trainers to ensure training can be rolled out in a timely and consistent manner. Most companies will be contracted to train the trainers, the trainers or super-users then cascade training to other members of the nursing team. Charge nurses should ensure a guideline, standard operating procedure, or competency (if relevant) is in place. Evidence of training should be kept up to date on the individual's eRoster portfolio.

## 5.4 Online Training

Many resources on medical equipment can be sourced online under resources and as per the following link

[NHSL Clinical Skills Webpage](#)

However, if charge nurses recommend alternative online resources, they must be responsibly sourced from the individual company. Third party videos such as You Tube clips from non-legitimate sources should not be used unless recommended by the specialist company.

## 5.5 Keeping Knowledge and Skills up to date

Equipment competencies should be reassessed 2 yearly or earlier as required. Local standard operating procedures relating to equipment should be reviewed every two years.

## 6.0 Associated materials

[Medical Devices Policy](#)

[NHSL Clinical Skills Webpage](#)

[NMC Future Nurse Standards of Proficiency \(2018\)](#)

[NMC Code](#)

## 7.0 Stakeholder Consultation

Medical Devices Committee

Clinical Education and Training team

## 8.0 Monitoring and review

Nurse training records on eESS