

## Benefits to Working in this Area

- Gain specialised transferable knowledge and skills in Spinal column/Spinal Cord Injury nursing
- Develop your existing nursing skills to provide the highest standard of individualised nursing care
- Develop meaningful relationships with patients and their families
- Development of communication & active listening skills
- Development of critical thinking skills
- Exposure & experience in the management of complex spinal injuries
- Exposure & experience in the management of complex patient discharges
- Personal growth & development actively encouraged and facilitated
- Stimulating and varied work environment
- Atmosphere of openness and inclusiveness
- On-going support from nurse managers and colleagues
- Experience of working as part of a well-established & highly functioning MDT

## Contact Us

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## Location

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National Spinal Injuries Unit  
Cancer & Surgery Directorate

Mater Misericordiae University Hospital



# Welcome

The **National Spinal Injuries Unit** is busy, dynamic unit with nurses caring for patients with Spinal Injuries and Spinal Cord Injuries. We provide highly specialised, coordinated, medical and surgical nursing care as part of an interdisciplinary team whose focus is on the patient receiving the best care possible.

The role of the **Spinal nurse** is to assist patients to achieve and maintain their optimum level of physical and psychosocial function.

The unit receives referrals from all counties in the Republic of Ireland and patients injured abroad that require repatriation. The unit was designed with the patient as its central focus and features bespoke features to enhance the patients comfort and safety. Working in this specialty you will gain knowledge, skills and experience in:

- Care of the patient with Spinal injuries and the patient with Spinal Cord injuries
- Caring for ventilator dependent patients, Tracheostomy care & suctioning
- Spinal Moving & handling and care of the patient with complex needs

# Opportunities

- Orientation Programme
- Continuing Education
- In-service education
- Attendance at both National/International Spinal conferences
- Postgraduate educational support
- Opportunity to undertake a CPD in Spinal Column/ Spinal Cord Injury Nursing
- Staff rotation between the Orthopaedic Ward and the National Spinal Injuries unit



# Projects / Research / Lean

- Retrospective review of Weaning guidelines
- 'How you are doing' boards incorporating the falls and pressure area safety crosses
- Development of an enhanced and improved 24hr bespoke spinal nursing chart