

Leatherhead Community Assessment Unit

Julie Ricketts – Lead Nurse



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

The unit was set up in November 2005

- In response to a request from the PCT to explore the options for alternate community care.
- Initial set up costs £20,000.
- Since then the unit has established itself with regional & national recognition.



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

OUR AIMS.

- Provide rapid diagnostic & treatment – the first to be based in a community hospital
- Provide an advice line for GPs & other health care professionals
- Provide a community IV service



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

What does this mean?

- Local & rapid care
- Reduced admissions to local acute hospital
- Easier access for GPs & referrers
- Improved patient pathways
- Cost effective, quality service



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

Patients can be referred by:

- GPs
- All health care professionals
- SECAM
- Intermediate Care / Rehab teams
- Specialist Services
- A&E / Acute trusts

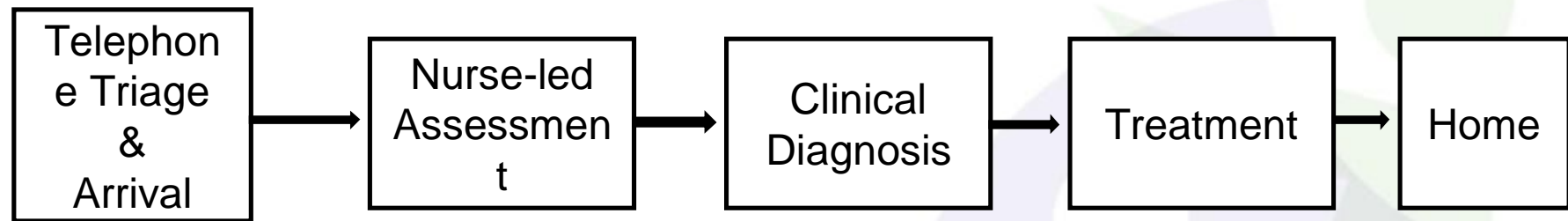
* The CAU is not a walk-in service



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

How the unit operates



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

Diagnostics available

- Rapid blood tests – with near testing equipment INR, U&Es, Troponin, D-dimer, BNP, ABGs
- X-Ray
- ECGs
- 24 hr ECG monitoring
- DVT diagnostics – fast track scan access
- Oxygen trials & blood gas analysis



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

Patient conditions

- DVT
- Cellulitis
- Falls
- Heart failure
- Chest pain
- COPD
- UTIs
- Confusion
- Asthma
- Pneumonia
- Infections
- Skin/rashes

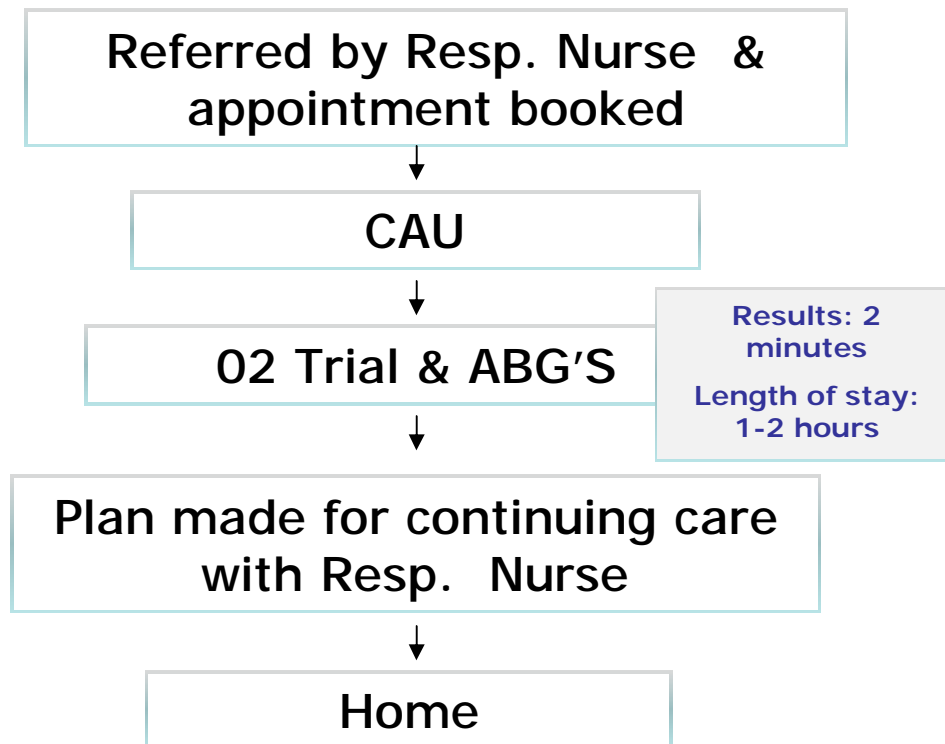
Patient pathways

Since the CAU opened new pathways have been developed for:

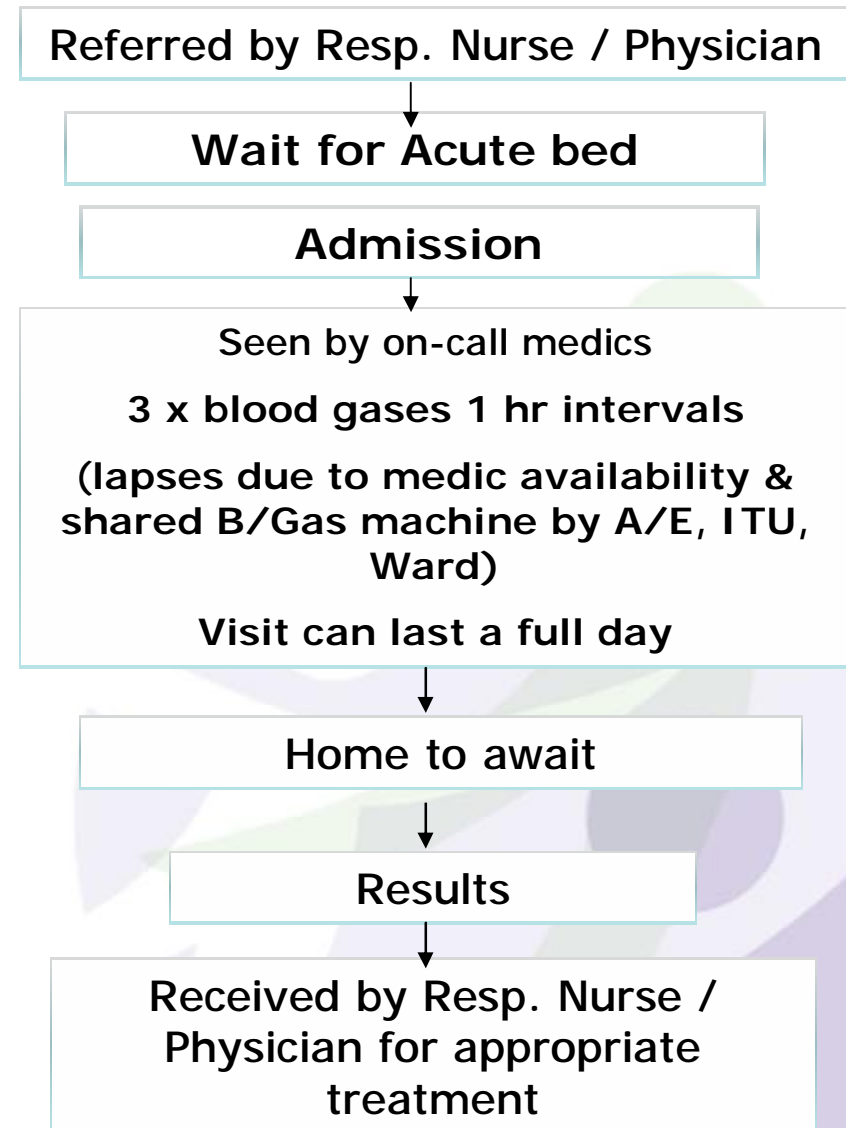
- DVT
- CELLULITIS
- COPD
- HEART FAILURE.



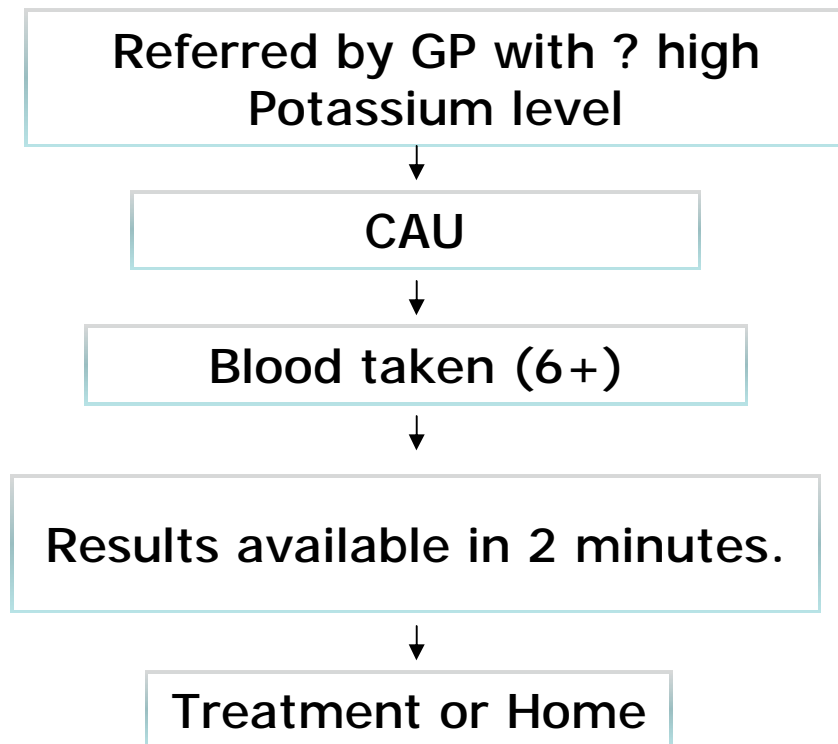
Leatherhead CAU



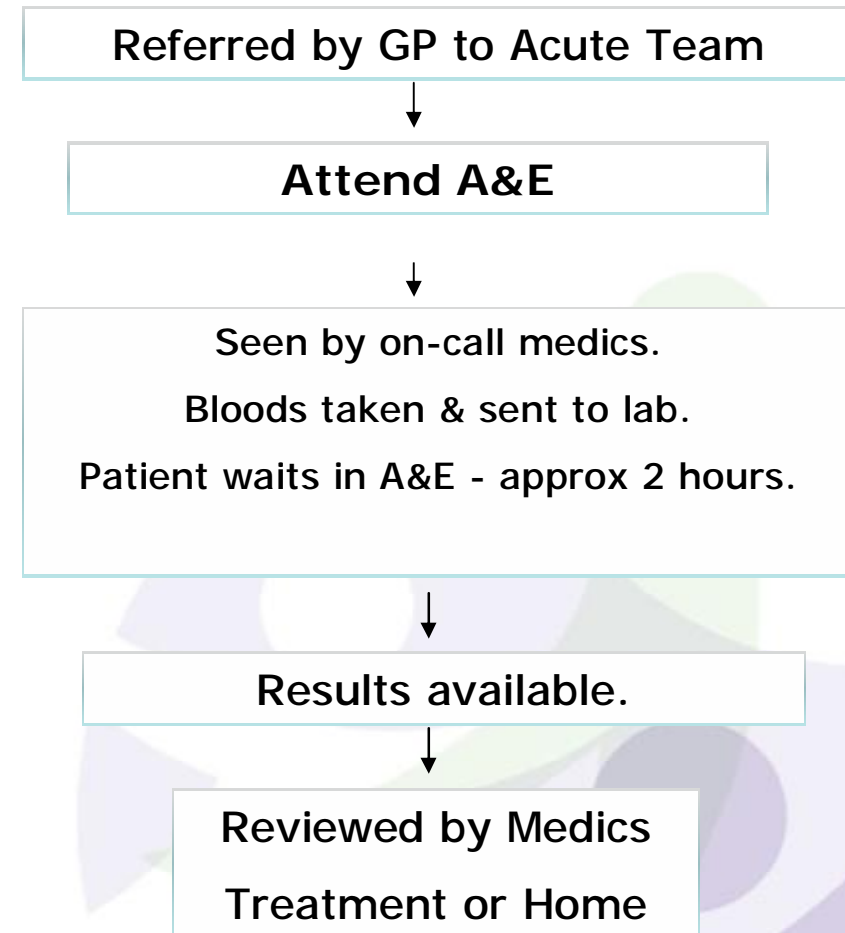
Pre Leatherhead CAU



Leatherhead CAU



Pre Leatherhead CAU



HEART FAILURE CASE STUDY.

- 84yr lady with symptoms of SOB/OE, orthopnoea, paroxysmal nocturnal dyspnoea & swelling of ankles.
- Diagnosed worsening CCF but known to have chronic renal failure in the past.
- Initial assessment followed by increase of diuretics & ACE inhibitor.
- Essential to monitor U&E's whilst medication is reviewed.
- 4 visits so far, symptoms easing & feeling much improved.
- Will continue to be monitored until on optimal treatment.



Specific achievements April 09 - March 10

- The average length of time spent in CAU was 24 minutes
- We avoided 265 acute admissions
- We diverted 4351 A&E attendances
- We took 434 advice calls

Developments since set up in 2005:

- Responding to local needs
- Community IV service - previously none in mid Surrey
- Infusion service - specifically requested by consultants
- All GP calls to acute are diverted to CAU for triage.



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

Recognition

Patients and GPs:

"Thank you for such a wonderful service. The speedy results alleviated a lot of anxiety"

"Fantastic service in every respect-seen immediately and careful attention by all the staff – enormously impressive"

"Incredibly rapid treatment & excellent staff"

Visits and other recognition /interest:

- ISTAT clinical involvement
- Visits from:
 - Department of Health
 - Cornwall, Milton Keynes & Surrey PCTs



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

Visit from Prime Minister & Lord Darzi June 2008



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

The Future

?



Central Surrey
Health

NHS

▪

Your comments would be very much appreciated to help us to continue to develop & grow to suit the needs of the community.

Thank you
Julie Ricketts,
Lead Nurse CAU.



Central Surrey
Health

NHS