

The Paediatric High Dependency Unit (PHDU) is an eight bed unit located in Ward 22 on the ground floor of Riverside. The PHDU is part of the continuum of care provided for infants, children and young people by acting as a 'step-up' or 'step-down' unit between the levels of nursing care, observation and monitoring provided on a paediatric ward and that of the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The PHDU are staffed by nurses from Ward 22 and a Clinical Nurse Specialist.

The infants / children / young people admitted to the PHDU are (or have the potential to become) physiologically unstable and deteriorate rapidly. The PHDU admits medical, surgical and trauma cases for ages ranging from hours old up to 15 years. The close nursing observation and monitoring provided in the PHDU identifies subtle changes in an infant / child / young person's condition early, so that appropriate nursing and medical intervention can be taken.

