Inpatient Disorders of Consciousness Program

For over 30 years, Cardinal Hill has been helping individuals rebuild their lives after brain injury. Patients and caregivers work with experienced certified professionals who specialize in treating all levels of acquired brain injuries. The Disorders of Consciousness Program offers patients the unique opportunity for serial standardized assessments to determine and monitor subtle changes in levels of consciousness. Caregivers receive training to understand the medical and therapeutic needs of the patient as well as the meaningfulness of each patient's complex behaviors. Based on the best available evidence, the program is designed to counteract the adverse effects of sensory deprivation, while aiming to accelerate the recovery process. Both Cardinal Hill's state-of-the-art facility and team of Certified Brain Injury Specialists create an atmosphere that supports the patient and family's recovery and progress.

Admission Criteria:

- Have a diagnosis of an acquired brain injury (traumatic or non-traumatic)
- Demonstrates spontaneous eye opening (i.e. arousal indicating emergence from coma)
- Classified as a Level II or III on the Rancho Los Amigos Levels of Cognitive Functioning Scale
- Establish a discharge plan: caregivers identified with an interest in education for the client's return home OR client returning to a Skilled Nursing Facility where a bed is on hold

The Disorders of Consciousness Treatment Team

For a smooth transition to inpatient rehabilitation, the brain injury team maintains communication with referring physicians, while focusing on the patient's rehabilitative needs. In addition to the Patient, Family and Caregiver, members of the treatment team may include:

- Physician
- Rehabilitation Nurse
- Physical Therapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech Language Pathologist
- Respiratory Therapist
- Case Manager/Social Worker
- Neuropsychologist
- Psychologist
- Dietician
- Pharmacist
- Chaplain

Family members are included in the treatment team, and we encourage active family participation as the patient works to achieve functional goals. A rehabilitation physician and nurse are available 24 hours a day, attending to each patient daily. Every patient is treated as an individual while working to achieve personal rehabilitation goals. Individual counseling, support groups, family education and referrals for community resources are all available. Family support is a key element in a successful rehabilitation experience following brain injury.

Program Features

Along with *Medical Management*, the plan of care may include:

- Standardized Assessments (e.g. Coma Recovery Scale - Revised)
- Sensory stimulation and processing
- Cognitive Retraining
- Innovative Technology and Equipment
- Swallowing Evaluation and Retraining
- Diet and Medication Management
- Neuropsychological Evaluation
- Customized Wheelchair Seating and Orthotics
- Family and Caregiver Education
- Tone Management
- Splinting and casting
- Mobility and balance training, including Lokomat®-assisted gait training

Follow-Up Services

As discharge from the inpatient phase approaches, the team recommends a plan for ongoing rehabilitation. A follow-up visit with a Cardinal Hill physician may be scheduled, and the physician's Discharge Summary is sent to referring physicians in acute care and to primary care physicians at home. Referrals are made for home health or outpatient therapy services according to the individual's needs. For patients planning to return to school, the team works with local school staff to ensure a successful transition back to the academic setting. At the time of discharge, changes may be recommended in the patient's general medical management, home program or home equipment.

Cardinal Hill provides a full range of services to accommodate entry into the rehabilitation process at any level of treatment after brain injury. In addition to the inpatient program, services include:

- Outpatient Therapy Services
- Outpatient Medical Day Program
- Outpatient Medical Clinic
- Residential Living
- Home Health Care
- Concussion Management/Mild TBI Clinic
- Wellness Programs

To make a referral or for more information

Call (859) 367-7120 or visit www.cardinalhill.org

Located in the scenic Bluegrass Region of Lexington, KY, Cardinal Hill is known as the region's premier physical rehabilitation hospital. For the thousands of clients we treat, the most important accomplishments of our services are the results we produce.