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*Updated on October 9, 2026

nova scotia health

UNIT PROFILE

7.3 NEUROSURGERY

Service Neurosurgery

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Unit 7.3 is the only in patient Neurosurgery and Spine Unit for the province of Nova Scotia. We service all patients from Trauma to Elective cases. The unit has a high acuity of patients along with a high turnover of patients. It has often been siad the 7.3 is the busiest unit in the province with admissions and discharges in a day.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Typically staff would work on the floor for at least 1 year prior to completing the required course to work in the IMCU.

UNIT ORIENTATION

12 Shifts with a preceptor (3 sets)

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Resident and Staff coverage 24/7 – on call.

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

32 + 2 Code Census along with 6 IMCU beds = 40 Total

PATIENT POPULATION

Neurosurgery and Spinal surgery

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Recreation Therapy, Therapeutic Assistants, Dietician, Speech Language Therapy, Social Work, Nurse Practitioners, Resident Physicians, Staff Physicians, Associate Physician, Continuing Care, Care Team Assistants, Registered Nurses, Brain Tumor RN, Clinical Lead RN, Charge Nurse, Clinical Nurse Educator, Unit Clerk, Unit Aide, House Keeping.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN/CTA Model

STAFFING LEVELS

RN's : 11 on for the Day shift plus charge. 10 on for the night shift and charge has assignment. CTA's: 4 on the Day shift, 2 on the Night shift

SCHEDULING

4 on 5 off schedule

UNIT PROFILE

8.1 INPATIENT MEDICINE UNIT

Service Orthopedic/Medicine

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Acute Inpatient Medicine Unit

RESPONSIBILITIES

Direct patient care. Nursing staff utilize the nursing process, critical thinking and problem-solving skills to care for patients and their families. Nurses coordinate patient care, advocate for patients and families, communicate with other team members, patients and families and collaborate with other team members to deliver person centered care. Physical workload requires frequent lifting and turning. Precepting new staff and students.

UNIT ORIENTATION

12 Orientation shifts with preceptor, scheduled medical-surgical modules, medicine education day with Clinical Nurse Educator.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

RN license, LPN License, CCA registered

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Day and Night coverage

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

35 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult- with variety of medical conditions (COPDE, CHF, CF, Delirium/Dementia, FTT, Pneumonia, various CA, Palliative Care, Infectious Diseases, Diabetes)

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Dietitian, Social Work, Rehab Assistant, Continuing Care, Pharmacy, Spiritual Care, Residents, Physicians, Unit Resource Nurse, Clinical Nurse Educator.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

LPN/RN/CCA

STAFFING LEVELS

1:4 Day Shift, 1:5 Night Shift

SCHEDULING

Self- Scheduling

UNIT PROFILE

5.1 CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY - INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Service Cardiovascular Surgery - Intensive Care Unit

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

PATIENT POPULATION

CVICU primarily cares for post-operative open-heart patients and families.

NUMBER OF BEDS

13 Beds

UNIT DESCRIPTION

RCVICU provides exemplary, compassionate tertiary and quaternary care to the post-operative open-heart patient population. CVICU is specifically designed to provide appropriate assessment, evaluation, and treatment of post-operative open-heart patients, while fostering an environment of professional growth, teamwork, and family centered care. Surgeries include coronary artery bypass graft (CABG), valve replacement/repair, adult congenital surgeries, thoracic aneurysm repair, medical and or surgical repair of aortic dissections, heart transplant, major vessel chest trauma, TAVI, ventricular assist device (VAD) program and VA ECMO program. The mandate within this service and unit is to provide holistic, high quality clinical care, characterized by an advanced level of knowledge and technical skills based on advances in research and practice in a multidisciplinary environment.

UNIT ORIENTATION

Registered Nurse (RN) unit specific orientation is comprehensive and individualized based on one's experience, qualifications, and formal training. As an example, an RN with previous, recent critical care experience and or Critical Care Course would receive 10-12 orientation shifts in addition to organizational onboarding and dedicated time with the Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE). More specific training in advanced competencies, such as Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT), IABP, ECMO and VAD is individualized in collaboration with the employee, CNE and Clinical Lead as part of career progression planning, again based on experience(s) and professional milestones in the first year.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN model of care with support of care team assistants and multidisciplinary team.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory Therapists, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, and dietician assigned to unit.
Social Work, Spiritual Care, Occupational Therapist, and other services are available on consult.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

ACLS Certification an asset.
Graduate of an Accredited Critical Care Program and/or critical care experience.

SCHEDULING

Self-Scheduling: 12 hour shifts, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

SKILLS REQUIRED

Advanced assessment, critical thinking, and decision-making skills. Strong interpersonal and communication skills, as well as organizational and teaching skills. Certification for care of patients requiring invasive and non-invasive mechanical ventilation and advanced hemodynamic monitoring. Administration of complex medications, including but not limited to vasopressors and inotropic agents, anti-arrhythmics, anticoagulants, paralytics, conscious and unconscious sedation, fluid resuscitation and administration of blood products using both massive and rapid transfusion protocols. Knowledge of ACLS protocols and IV push medications and ability to acquire skills and knowledge in more advanced critical life support systems including ECMO, CRRT, VAD and IABP. This advanced competency training will be provided once foundational ICU experience is acquired.

STAFFING LEVELS

Days: 12-13 RNs with dedicated Charge RN 7 days a week and CTA
support.
Nights: 12 RNs, Charge has assignment.
Acuity is primary determinant of staffing levels.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RN in CVICU provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings and is accountable for the development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve or optimize patient/client outcomes. The RN will be a member of Code Blue Team for site. The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. The RN contributes to the efficient and effective functioning of the unit, coordination of patient care and staffing. Participation on committees such as the CVICU Professional Practice that support continuous quality activities. The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs and research.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Intensivist and Resident/Fellow on call 24/7

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

UNIT PROFILE

5.2 MED/SURG/NEURO/TRAUMA ICU

Service ICU – Trauma/Neurosurgery/General Surgery/Medicine

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Level 1 ICU – Trauma/Neurosurgery/General Surgery/Medicine

UNIT ORIENTATION

Experienced RNs with critical care experience and critical care course receive 12 orientation shifts with an assigned preceptor following an initial education day with the Clinical Nurse Educator and an education day with the Clinical Lead. More specific training in delegated medical functions is provided within the first 4 months. Consideration may be given to RNs without critical care experience. If considered, RNs are enrolled in the Critical Care Onboarding Program and then further sponsored through the part-time critical care nurse program to obtain certification

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

12 RNs for 12 Patients – 1:1 nurse-patient ratio

NUMBER OF BEDS

12 ICU Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Trauma center, neurosurgery, orthopedics, vascular surgery, general
surgery, general medicine, respirology, neurology, cardiology, plastic
surgery, burns, sepsis, overdoses, organ donors, ECMO, CRRT and referrals
from other centers requiring
the above services.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory Therapist, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Dietician, Social Work, Spiritual Care, Occupational Therapist, and other medical services available on consult

SCHEDULING

Hybrid Schedule 12 hour shifts – choose from self scheduling or fixed
rotation

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Registered Nurse with the Nova Scotia College of Nurses

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Closed unit with ICU Attending admitting privileges: 24/7 ICU Attending
Physican, 24/7 Resident, 24/7 Senior Resident, Fellow

STAFFING LEVELS

Day shift
12 RN + 1 dedicated Charge Nurse x 7 days a week
1 Clinical Lead (M-F)
1 CTA x 7 days per week
1 Clinical Nurse Educator (M-F)
1 Pharmacist (7 days/week
1 Physiotherapist (7 days/week)
1 Dietitian (M-F)
2 RT
1 Unit Aide (7 days/week)
1 Unit Clerk (7 days/week)
1 Supply Tech (M-F)
1 Occupational Therapist (M-F shared)
Night shift
12 RN with an assigned charge nurse
1 CTA x 7 nights per week
2 RT

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RN provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings and is accountable for the development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve or optimize patient/client outcomes.
Member of Code Blue Team. The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. Participation on committees such as the unit based Professional Practice Committee that support continuous quality activities. The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs and research.

UNIT PROFILE

6.1 CARDIOLOGY INTERMEDIATE CARE UNIT

Service Cardiology IMCU

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

PATIENT POPULATION

Acute Coronary Syndrome Patients- NST Elevation MI's and Unstable Angina; Cardiac Arrhythmias, Congestive Heart Failure, Cardiomyopathies, and Endocarditis with hemodynamic stability; Pre and Post Heart Transplant Patients. Patients from Atlantic Canada requiring tertiary cardiac care.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Cardiology Intermediate Care

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Total patient care.

NUMBER OF BEDS

18 IMCU Beds

UNIT ORIENTATION

Experienced RN's with Cardiology experience receive 10-12 orientation shifts with an assigned preceptor following an initial education day with the unit educator. New graduate RNs or those new to IMCU complete an Intermediate Care Course within the first 2 months. New Graduates have an extended orientation over the first 3 months.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory therapist, pharmacist and physiotherapist assigned to unit.
Social Work, Spiritual Care, Occupational Therapist, Dietician and other medical services available on consult

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

ACLS Certification an asset.

SCHEDULING

Self-Scheduling: 12 hour shifts, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

SKILLS REQUIRED

Advanced assessment, critical thinking and decision making skills, strong interpersonal and communication skills, as well as organizational and teaching skills.
Certification for care of patients requiring defibrillation and cardio version, temporary or permanent cardiac pacing, central venous access devices and arterial lines. Knowledge of ACLS protocols and IV push medications.

STAFFING LEVELS

Days: 7 Registered Nurses
Nights: 6 Registered Nurses

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RN provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings and is accountable for the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve or optimize patient/client outcomes. The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship.
The RN is expected to take on the Charge role.
Participation on committees such as the Unit based Professional Practice Committee that support continuous quality activities.
The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs and research.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Closed unit with Cardiologist Admitting privileges; Senior Cardiology Resident coverage

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

UNIT PROFILE

9LANE GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT UNIT AND PROGRESSIVE CARE UNIT

Service Geriatric Assessment Unit and Progressive Care Unit

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Multidisciplinary unit providing sub acute care and rehabilitation to frail older adult population following their acute care admission

UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

Participate in unit councils and promote quality improvement initiatives.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

27 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Older Adults +65 years

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physicians, medical learners, PT, OT, SW, NUT, Pharmacy, Continuing Care, RN, LPN, CTA.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7

UNIT PROFILE

4.1 ORTHOPEDICS/IMCU

Service Orthopedic Trauma

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

4.1/IMCU is an Orthopedic Trauma unit that provides care to patients with acute ortho injuries requiring surgical and medical management.
The unit cares for patients with fractures, polytrauma, post-operative ortho procedures, and complex trauma-related conditions. The unit consists of 32 inpatient beds and a 4-bed Intermediate Care Unit (IMCU) that manages higher-acuity orthopedic trauma patients requiring closer monitoring.

RESPONSIBILITIES

NA

UNIT ORIENTATION

New staff complete a minimum of 12 orientation shifts paired with an RN preceptor. Progress during orientation is assessed at the halfway point (touchpoints with CNE)— with additional orientation shifts provided as needed to support safe and independent practice.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

- Registered Nurses: Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) or equivalent and current registration with the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia
- Continuing Care Assistants (CTA): Must be registered on the CTA Registry in Nova Scotia

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

The unit works closely with an interdisciplinary medical team including orthopedic residents, a Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistants, and Medical Associates.

NUMBER OF BEDS

36 total beds (32 floor level beds and 4 IMCU beds)

PATIENT POPULATION

Orthopedic trauma patients

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Dietary, Pharmacy, Spiritual Care, Rehabilitation Assistants, and other allied health professionals

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Registered Nurse (RN) and Continuing Care Assistant (CTA) care model

STAFFING LEVELS

Day shift staffing includes 11 RNs, a dedicated Charge Nurse, and a Clinical Nurse Lead, with a Clinical Nurse Educator available for support.
Night shift staffing includes 9 RNs.

SCHEDULING

Staff work a 4-on/5-off rotation, typically following a 2-day/2-night pattern, followed by 5 consecutive days off.

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

UNIT PROFILE

3IMCU MEDICAL/SURGICAL INTERMEDIATE CARE UNIT

Service Intermediate Care Unit

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

3IMCU is a 12-bed Intermediate Care Unit, caring for a wide range of medical diagnosis. Interventions and treatment unique to 3IMCU include: Mechanical ventilation, acute BiPAP/CPAP, Allergy Desensitization, bedside GI scopes, Bronchoscopy and Continuous IV titration medications. Staff work within a multidisciplinary team to deliver specialized care.

RESPONSIBILITIES

APS, CPR and IMCU Course is required and will be provided once hired.

UNIT ORIENTATION

Orientation to 3IMCU is robust and includes the completion of the High Acuity Nursing Program and a unit specialty education session from the 3IMCU Clinical Nurse Educator and Clinical Lead.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

RN requirements: Must be fully licensed with NSCN and completion of the High Acuity Nursing Program.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

3IMCU is covered by Critical Care physicians

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

12 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult, medical/surgical patients requiring an intermediate level of care

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physiotherapy, Occupational therapy, Dietician, Spiritual care, Respiratory Therapy and a unit Pharmacist.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

3IMCU delivers care with an RN and CTA mix

STAFFING LEVELS

Day shifts consist of 7 RNS, 1 Charge Nurse, 1 CTA, 1Unit Clerk, 1 Unit Aide, 1 CNE (mon-fri) and 1 Clinical Lead (mon-fri). Night shifts consist of 7 RNs.

SCHEDULING

24/7 service delivery. Shifts are 12hrs long, 0700-1900 and 1900-0700. Set schedules of Long week/ Short week, or 4on/5off

UNIT PROFILE

5.1 CARDIOVASCULAR INTENSIVE CARE (CVICU)

Service Cardiovascular Surgery-Intensive Care Unit

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

CVICU provides exemplary, compassionate tertiary and quaternary care to the post-operative open-heart patient population. CVICU is specifically designed to provide appropriate assessment, evaluation and treatment of post-operative open-heart patients, while fostering an environment of professional growth, teamwork and family centered care. Surgeries include coronary artery bypass graft (CABG), valve replacement/repair, adult congenital surgeries, thoracic aneurysm repair, medical and or surgical repair of aortic dissections, heart transplant, major vessel chest trauma, TAVI, ventricular assist device (VAD) program and VA ECMO program. The mandate within this service and unit is to provide holistic, high quality clinical care, characterized by an advanced level of knowledge and technical skills based on advances in research and practice in a multidisciplinary environment

PATIENT POPULATION

As above. CVICU primarily cares for post-operative open-heart patients and families.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN model of care with support of care team assistants and multidisciplinary team

NUMBER OF BEDS

13 Beds

UNIT ORIENTATION

Registered Nurse (RN) unit specific orientation is comprehensive and individualized based on ones' experience, qualifications and formal training. As an example, an RN with previous, recent critical care experience and or Critical Care Course would receive 10-12 orientation shifts in addition to organizational on- boarding and dedicated time with the Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE). More specific training in advanced competencies, such as Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT), IABP, ECMO and VAD is individualized in collaboration with the employee, CNE and Clinical Lead as part of career progression planning, again based on experience(s) and professional milestones in the first year.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory therapists, pharmacist, physiotherapist and dietician assigned to unit.
Social Work, Spiritual Care, Occupational Therapist and other services are available on consult

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

ACLS Certification an asset
Graduate of an Accredited Critical Care Program and/or critical care experience

SCHEDULING

Self-Scheduling: 12 hour shifts, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

SKILLS REQUIRED

Advanced assessment, critical thinking and decision-making skills. Strong interpersonal and communication skills, as well as organizational and teaching skills.
Certification for care of patients requiring invasive and non-invasive mechanical ventilation and advanced hemodynamic monitoring.
Administration of complex medications, including but not limited to vasopressors and inotropic agents, anti-arrhythmics, anticoagulants, paralytics, conscious and unconscious sedation, fluid resuscitation and administration of blood products using both massive and rapid transfusion protocols. Knowledge of ACLS protocols and IV push medications and ability to acquire skills and knowledge in more advanced critical life support systems including ECMO, CRRT, VAD and IABP. This advanced competency training will be provided once foundational ICU experience is acquired.

STAFFING LEVELS

Days: 12-13 RN's with dedicated Charge RN 7 days a week and CTA support.
Nights: 12 RN's, Charge has assignment.
Acuity is primary determinant of staffing levels.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RN in CVICU provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings and is accountable for the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve or optimize patient/client outcomes. Member of Code Blue Team for site.
The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship.
The RN contributes to the efficient and effective functioning of the unit, coordination of patient care and staffing.
Participation on committees such as the CVICU Professional Practice that support continuous quality activities.
The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs and research.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Intensivist and Resident/Fellow on call 24/7

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

UNIT PROFILE

6.2 GENERAL CARDIOLOGY

Service Cardiology

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

PATIENT POPULATION

Care of patient pre and post cardiac catheterization/PCI
Care of patient pre and post EPS/Ablation
Care of patient pre and post permanent pacemaker/device insertion
Care of Patient pre and post cardiac transplant
Care of patient in heart failure Care of patient pre and post permanent pacemaker/device insertion
Care of patient with unstable and stable angina
Care of patients following NSTEMI/STEMI
Care of patients awaiting Open Heart Surgery
Care of patients with Valvular Heart Disease

UNIT DESCRIPTION

6.2 is a 41 patient Cardiology unit with capacity of 39 telemetry beds. Patients are received in transfer from the inpatient CCU/IMCU/ER. Provides tertiary care for all of Nova Scotia, Cape Breton and PEI

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Modified total patient care.

NUMBER OF BEDS

39 + 2 NTCS

UNIT ORIENTATION

New Nursing Graduate Orientation: One eight hour day of general hospital orientation followed by 5 med/surg module. This is provided by Professional Practice. The Graduate Nurse then has 10-12/ 12 hours shifts paired with a preceptor. In addition, there is an 8 hour education day with our Clinical Nurse Educator to orientate staff to the unit and an 11.25 hr cardiac rhythm course. Experienced Orientation: This could be less or more based on experience. If the experienced nurse is external he/she would attend the hospital orientation. All staff would be required to complete the cardiac rhythm course following orientation for the care of the patient on telemetry.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Pharmacy, Social Work, Cardiologists, Associate Physicians, Nurse Practitioners, Home Care, Patient Flow Coordinator, Ward Clerks, Ward Aides, CTA, RNs, Clinical Nurse Educator, OT, Heart Function Team, Medical Residents, Nursing Students, NP students

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

GN/RN Licensure

SCHEDULING

Self-Scheduling: 12 hour shifts, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

SKILLS REQUIRED

Initiation and maintenance of intravenous
IV push medications
Maintenance of central lines and PICC lines
Venipuncture
Telemetry (training provided for this following orientation)
Heparin Drip
Assessment and treatment of Chest Pain
Radial Artery Compression
Care of a Patient following a trans-radial or trans-femoral cardiac catheterization/PCI Knowledge of basic cardiac rhythm

STAFFING LEVELS

Days: RN -9 TD, 9 TN, CTA 1 TD/Evenings

RESPONSIBILITIES

Coordinate and direct care for the patients on 6.2.
Provide clinical leadership in a complex and sometimes unpredictable environment.
Develop, implement and evaluate the patients plan of care on a continual basis
Practice in accordance with the Canadian Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses, the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia Standards of Nursing Practice. Ability to function in fast pace environment
Central Zone has a high affiliation with Dalhousie University and students from various disciplines are often on the unit. RNs will be expected to precept and orient new staff.
May be expected to take on the Charge Nurse Role
Participation in committees that support that unit (ie Professional Practice) will be expected.
Critical Thinking
Strong interpersonal communication and decision making skills

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Staff cardiologist present on days. Residents and Associate Physician on site overnight.

MEDICATION SYSTEM

PYXIS

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

6B THORACIC SURGERY

Service Thoracic Surgery

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

PATIENT POPULATION

average 90% Thoracic Surgery patients
average 5% Trauma

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Universally accepted patients with a Thoracic Surgery focus in care. Most patients receive pre and postoperative Thoracic Surgery care and discharged, on average, in 3-5 days. 6B IMCU is a non-service-specific intermediate care unit for critically ill patients within the health care system requiring services for acute illness outside of 6B unit and ICU.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN and LPN's

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Nurses: Diploma, BSN, BScN, APS, IMCU/HANP, Cardiac Arrest Team pager

STAFFING LEVELS

24 hours service
TD: 7 RN's, 2 LPN's, Charge Nurse, Resource Nurse, Unit Aide, Unit Clerk, CTA
TN 7 RN's, 1 LPN, Unit Clerk until 2200

NUMBER OF BEDS

25 acute care inpatient beds
4 IMCU beds
2 NTCS

UNIT ORIENTATION

New Grad Nurses (on average): 12-14 shifts
New hires nurses (from previous units and non-New Grad): 10- 12 shifts
Nurses returning from LOA: 8-10 shifts
Unit Aide: 10 shifts
CTA: 10 shifts

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Thoracic Surgeons, Charge Nurse, Resource Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Physcicians Associate, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, Physiotherapist Assistant, Unit Clerk, Unit Aide, Social Worker, Dietician, Continuing Care Coordinator, Care Team Assistant

SCHEDULING

Sefl-scheduling with self scheduling committee

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NSH pharmacies
Community pharmacies if required (patient specific if required).

RESPONSIBILITIES

NA

SKILLS REQUIRED

Initiation and maintenance of intravenous
IV push medications
Maintenance of central lines and PICC lines
Venipuncture
Telemetry (training provided for this following orientation)
Heparin Drip
Assessment and treatment of Chest Pain
Radial Artery Compression
Care of a Patient following a trans-radial or trans-femoral cardiac catheterization/PCI Knowledge of basic cardiac rhythm

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Staff Surgeon daily
Physician's Associate: 3 daily 08-16

UNIT PROFILE

6.4 CORONARY CARE UNIT (CCU)

Service Cardiology-Coronary Care Unit

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Coronary Care Unit (CCU) with STEMI and EPS (Electrophysiology) bed

PATIENT POPULATION

Acute Coronary Syndrome Patients- ST Elevation MI's; Cardiogenic Shock; Post Cardiac Arrest requiring Induced Hypothermia; Life threatening Cardiac Arrhythmias; and Acute Congestive Heart Failure; Cardiomyopathies, and Endocarditis with hemodynamic instability or respiratory failure; Pre and Post Heart Transplant Patients; Hypertensive Crisis and patients from Atlantic Canada requiring tertiary cardiac care.
The STEMI/Procedural bed is used for Primary PCI (P-PCI) - STEMIs admitted direct from EHS, Rescue PCI from referring hospitals and short stay procedures such as cardio versions and pericardial taps. The EPS bed is for same day admission EPS patients post ablation requiring monitoring for a 24 hour period and outpatient cardioversions.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Total patient care.

NUMBER OF BEDS

12 CCU beds plus STEMI and EPS bed

UNIT ORIENTATION

Experienced RN's with critical care experience and critical care course receive 10-12 orientation shifts with an assigned preceptor following an initial education day with the unit educator. More specific training in delegated medical functions are provided within the first 4 months. New graduate RNs complete an ICU Graduate Transition Program over their first year.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory therapist, pharmacist and physiotherapist assigned to unit.
Social Work, Spiritual Care, Occupational Therapist, Dietician and other medical services available on consult

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

ACLS Certification an asset
Graduate of an Accredited Critical Care Program and / or critical care experience

SCHEDULING

Self-Scheduling: 12 hour shifts, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

SKILLS REQUIRED

Advanced assessment, critical thinking and decision making skills, strong interpersonal and communication skills, as well as organizational and teaching skills.
Certification for care of patients requiring mechanical ventilation and hemodynamic monitoring, Intra-aortic balloon pump, Impella, defibrillation and cardio version, temporary or permanent cardiac pacing, induced hypothermia protocol. Knowledge of ACLS protocols and IV push medications.

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RN provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings and is accountable for the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve or optimize patient/client outcomes. Member of Code Blue Team.
The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship.
The RN is expected to take on the Charge role.
Participation on committees such as the Unit based Professional Practice committee that support continuous quality activities
The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs and research.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Closed unit with Cardiologist Admitting privileges; Senior Cardiology Resident coverage

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

UNIT PROFILE

7.1 CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY/ IMCU

Service Cardiovascular Surgery

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

PATIENT POPULATION

Pre and postoperative care of cardiovascular surgery patients. Patients are admitted to CVICU postoperatively, transferred to IMCU then to floor.

NUMBER OF BEDS

21 floor + 12 IMCU = 33 Beds

UNIT ORIENTATION

Grad Nurses attend the New Graduate Transition Program. All new hires are scheduled for three additional EDU days covering competencies/topics pertinent to the 7.1 patient population. 10-12 clinical orientation shifts with preceptor. RN staff are required to attend the IMCU course within 6-12 months of hire.
Experienced Staff- would depend on previous skill and experience-would vary 6-10 clinical shifts after discussion with manager and CNE. Would attend additional unit specific education as required.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Provides pre and post-operative care to patients requiring open heart surgery (coronary artery bypass, valve surgery and congenital surgeries). Patient population also includes pacemakers, AICD's, thoracic aneurysms and heart failure patients who have Ventricular Assist Device Therapy.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Pharmacists, Social Work, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietician, Respiratory Therapist, Nurse Practitioner, Diabetes Case Manager , VAD Case Manager, Home Care. Other services available on consult.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Total patient care.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Current BLS, IMCU course, APS certification, participation in unit and hospital based education sessions as applicable.

SCHEDULING

Self-Scheduling: 12 hour shifts, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week

SKILLS REQUIRED

Certification for the following : IV initiation and maintenance, Venipuncture for blood specimen collection(includes blood cultures), Nasogastric Tube Insertion, care and removal of PICC, and central venous catheters, peritoneal dialysis, direct administration of IV medications, Ventricular Assist Device Therapy, Patient Controlled Analgesia and continuous peripheral nerve block. Care of arterial lines and blood sampling (IMCU only), VAC therapy, cardiac monitoring. Temporary Cardiac Pacing is a delegated medical function-IMCU only.
Care of patients with Amiodorone, Heparin, Dopamine, Insulin drips.

STAFFING LEVELS

Days: 11 RN
Nights: 9 RN

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RN is responsible for the coordination and delivery of nursing care. The RN has the knowledge, skill and judgment needed to provide competent, evidence based nursing practice. The RN is accountable for the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve client/patient outcomes. The RN supports the development of students and colleagues by acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs, research and continuous quality improvement activities. The RN practices according to the Canadian Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses, Nova Scotia College of Nursing, specialty standards as applicable and the policies and procedures of the Nova Scotia Health Authority. Ability to adapt to high patient turnover well developed critical thinking and assessment skills, highly developed organizational skills and. ability to effectively prioritize and manage care. Heavy physical workload.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Resident on call 24 hours

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

UNIT PROFILE

7.2 ORTHOPEDICS/IMCU

Service Orthopedics

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Inpatient unit for patients receiving Orthopedic Services

RESPONSIBILITIES

We are the admitting unit for orthopedic trauma-related injuries.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

28 inpatient beds
4 IMCU beds

PATIENT POPULATION

The unit provides 24/7 acute care services for Orthopedic patients that require pre/post-operative and non-operative care. The patient population consists of patients with a variety of Orthopedic conditions including, poly-traumas, spine/ankle and hip fractures/replacements, osteosarcomas, post-op infections and patients requiring IMCU level monitoring.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, LPN, CTA, Clerk, Unit aide, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Dietician, Continuing care, Pharmacist, Nurse practitioner, Resource nurse

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7
12- hour shifts including days and nights

UNIT PROFILE

7.4 NEUROLOGY, STROKE & EPILEPSY MONITORING UNIT

Service Medicine

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

7.4 is an inpatient neurology medical unit at the Halifax Infirmary site. The unit is leading the development and implementation of new care models to improve Neurology, Stroke & Epilepsy patient care services.

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult patients

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

a)Inpatient Medical Unit (30 beds)
30-bed Acute Care inpatient area providing 24/7 care for a complex patient population, primarily Stroke and General Neurology.
b)Epilepsy Monitoring Unit (EMU) 4 beds
4 beds- Epilepsy Monitoring unit provides 24/7 care and specialized monitoring of patients with complex seizure disorders that could include elective surgical repair plans. The EMU is the quaternary referral center for Epilepsy patients in Atlantic Canada.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

-Multiple Disciplines: 7 Disciplines (NPs, RNs, LPNs, CTAs, UAs, UCs, and ESAs)
-Multiple Medical Services: Neurology, Residents and clerks and multiple consulting services.
-Multiple Physician groups supported: General Neurology, Stroke, and Epilepsy Program specialties.
-Interdisciplinary Team: PT, OT, Recreation Therapy, Clinical Dietician, Speech and language therapists

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7 inpatient services. Shift length is 12 hrs mix of days and nights. Shifts start at 7 am or 19:00

RESPONSIBILITIES

IPatients population and needs:
The Neurology, Stroke and Epilepsy Monitoring Unit consist of 30 acute inpatient beds dedicated to the Neurology and Stroke service and a 4-bed epilepsy monitoring unit (EMU).
It is a specialized medicine unit with:
·A primary focus of providing neurology and stroke services. The focus of care includes acute stabilization/assessment for newly diagnosed stroke/neurology patients, intermediate stroke/neurology rehabilitation care, and managing patients with complex needs from both a care planning and/or discharge perspective.
·There is always an RN role in acute and sub-acute care based on the requirements of establishing the nursing plan of care inclusive of discharge planning.The requirements for the frequency and intensity of RN to complete these functions are influenced by many factors including acuity and complexity of patient needs, patient length of stay/turnover, the existence of care pathways, and other members of the inter-professional team who can either contribute and/or take the lead role in meeting the patient care need.
·LPN scope of practice can be efficiently optimized when a patient's plan of care is established, there is a predictable trajectory for anticipated care needs, patient response to the treatment plan can be anticipated and there is the appropriate volume of patients can meet these criteria.
·CTA: to support patients' needs with the nursing staff
·The EMU (4 specialized beds): would be only assigned to the unit- staff due to special training requirements.
Procedures:
-Admissions: Nursing assessment, charting, creating care plans.
-Discharges: charting, following up with the allied health team and discharge planning.
-IV meds administration
-Assisting with tPA administration (stroke medication)
-IV infusions
-Blood products and IVIG transfusions.
-Diabetes management and insulin administration.
-Wound care: assessment, dressings, ….
-NG tubes insertions and removal
-Tube feedings
-Urinary care: Catheters care.
-Tracheostomy care and suctions.

STAFFING LEVELS

7 Days/week
TD 5 RN - 3 LPN- 2 CTA
TN 4 RN – 2 LPN- 1 CTA
Charge nurse 7 Days/week TD (does not take an assignment)
So, each nurse would take 3-4 patients per day shift (if no short staff), and 5 patients per night shift (if no short staff).

UNIT PROFILE

8.2 MEDICAL TEACHING UNIT (MTU)

Service General Internal Medicine

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Acute care general medicine unit providing multidisciplinary approached care to complex, comorbid patients. Exposure to a wide variety of medical conditions, interventions, and skills. Nursing skills commonly used include CVADs, NG tube insertion/maintenance, trach care, various oxygen modalities, wound care, telemetry, peritoneal dialysis. Ability to respond to rapidly changing situations, critical thinking skill development and time management. Since this is a Medical Teaching Unit, the atmosphere is geared to supportlearning for all disciplines.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Telemetry, assessment and management of high acuity, quality improvements

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

38 - plus overcapacity bedspace when needed (39)

PATIENT POPULATION

Ages 16-101. Gastrointestinal hemorrhage, cirrhosis/alcoholic hepatitis, renal failure, CHF, diabetes, NSTEMIs, infectious diseases/sepsis, COPD,

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

social work, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, continuing care, pharmacy, dietician, spiritual care

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7
12 hour shifts, day (0700-1900) and night (1900-0700)

UNIT PROFILE

8.3 ORTHOPEDIC SHORT STAY UNIT

Service Orthopedics

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Primarily elective arthroplasty (knees & hips), as well as various orthopedic surgeries.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Total patient care

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

31

PATIENT POPULATION

Adults

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Nursing, Physicians, Clinical Nurse Educators, Nursing Resource Nurse, PT, OT, Social Worker, CTA, Pharmacy, Unit clerk, Unit aide, Health Services Manager

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7 12 hour shifts

UNIT PROFILE

8.4 HOSPITALIST MEDICINE UNIT

Service Hospitalist Medicine Unit

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary

UNIT DESCRIPTION

8.4 is a 40-bed acute care inpatient medicine unit. We care for a wide variety of medical conditions, with most common diagnoses of pneumonia, COPD exacerbation, delirium/dementia, cystic fibrosis, infection/sepsis, and palliative care. The care model consists of RN/LPN teams with CTA support.

RESPONSIBILITIES

We are the admitting unit for any CF patients who need inpatient treatment.

UNIT ORIENTATION

Orientation is typically around 16 shifts for nursing; however, it is designed to be person-centered and individual learning needs will be considered. The unit has a full-time unit resource nurse and clinical nurse educator to support all clinical staff.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

RN, LPN, CTA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Physician coverage is predominantly provided by staff hospitalists and coverage is available 24/7

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

38 beds (up to 40 beds in surge)

PATIENT POPULATION

Adults ranging in age from 18-100+ years. We most commonly work with geriatric patients.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Interdisciplinary team includes Physicians, Nurses, CTAs, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Pharmacists, Dietitians

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

8.4 has a nursing team model of care with RNs and LPNs

STAFFING LEVELS

1 CN, 1 RN, 2 LPN, 4CTA

SCHEDULING

Nursing: 12-hour shifts (0700-1900 or 1900 to 0700), and we work a 4 on 5 off rotation (2 days, 2 nights, 5 days off)
CTAs: 12-hour shifts (0700-1900 or 1900 to 0700), and we work a 4 on 4 off schedule (2 days, 2 nights, 4 days off)
Clerks: 12-hour shifts (0700-1900) with a long-week/short-week rotation
Unit Aides: 12-hour shifts (0700-1900) with a long-week/short-week rotation

UNIT PROFILE

MINOR PROCEDURES

Service Ambulatory Care

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Outpatient clinic specializing in surgical procedures without anesthesia, endoscopy and recovery of patients post procedure

NUMBER OF BEDS

4 Procedure rooms, 2 Endoscopy rooms, Recovery area

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult Minor Procedures

RESPONSIBILITIES

Approx. patient volumes: 40/day

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, clerk B, Unit Aide, SPD aide

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

7:30am – 5:00pmMonday to Friday

UNIT PROFILE

ORTHOPEDICS CLINIC

Service Ambulatory Care

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Outpatient clinic specializing in arthroplasty, spine, tumors, fractures, other orthopedic conditions

RESPONSIBILITIES

Approx. patient volumes: 150/day

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

All clinical assessment rooms

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult orthopedic

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, Clerk B, unit aide, orthopedic technologist

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

7:30am – 4:30pm Monday to Friday

UNIT PROFILE

PLASTICS CLINIC

Service Ambulatory Care

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Plastic Clinic

RESPONSIBILITIES

Approx. patient volumes: 85/day

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

All clinical assessment rooms

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult burns and plastics

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, Clerk B, unit aide

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

7:30am – 4:00pm Monday to Friday

UNIT PROFILE

UROLOGY CLINIC

Service Ambulatory Care

Site QEII, Halifax Infirmary Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Outpatient clinic specializing in assessment and treatment of urologic conditions such as prostate & bladder cancer, bladder disfunction, penile erectile disfunction

RESPONSIBILITIES

Approx. patient volumes: 110/day

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

All clinical assessment rooms

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult Urology

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, clerk B, Sterile Processing Technologist, CTA

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

8:00am – 4:00pm Monday to Friday

UNIT PROFILE

ENDOSCOPY

Service Ambulatory Care

Site QEII, VG (Main Clinic) and HI (Satellite Clinic)

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Serving both VG and HI sites, our clinic sees high volumes of inpatients and outpatients, from around the province requiring Endoscopy services including Gastroscopy, Colonoscopy, ERCP, Bronchoscopy, EUS, EBUS and Motility Studies. Staff work collaboratively with all team members and physicians to provide both routine and urgent care before, during and after procedures using conscious sedation.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Nursing and Physician staff provide urgent on-call services after hours, weekends and holidays.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Cancer Screening and Prevention, Diagnostics, Digestive Disorders, Biopsies, Treatment. Adult population of wide range of ages.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, LPN, Unit Aide, SPD, Booking & Registration Clerks, Physicians, Respiratory Therapists

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Monday to Friday 7am-5pm. Closed evenings, weekends and holidays except for on-call services. Shifts are 8 hours and on-call duties are required (nursing).

UNIT PROFILE

2B OPHTHALMOLOGY OPERATING ROOMS

Service Ophthalmology Operating Rooms

Site 2B Centennial Building, Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

2B provides surgical Nursing Care for ophthalmic patients

RESPONSIBILITIES

Unit activities as required, for example orientation of new staff.
Voluntary membership on unit/hospital committees. For example:
Workplace safety committee, accreditation

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult Ophthalmic surgery- Cataract, Retina, Glaucoma, Orbit/Plastics, Adult Strabismus, Corneal Transplant and some Pediatric Retina surgeries

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN's, ORT's, Anesthetists, Surgeons, Anesthesia Assistants and technicians, Supply Aides, supply technicians and clerical staff

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

0700-1700 Monday- Friday with some Overtime and scheduled on call

UNIT PROFILE

2B OPHTHALMOLOGY DAY SURGERY

Service Ambulatory Services- Department of Ophthalmology

Site 2B Centennial Building, Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

2B Day surgery provide pre and post-op care to the Ophthalmic Surgery patient.
pre-op teaching and preparation are provided to patients
Post-op care and teaching provided prior to discharge

RESPONSIBILITIES

Voluntary membership on unit/hospital committees, for example:
Workplace Safety Committees, Accreditation.
Unit activities as required, for example, orientation of new staff.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Pre/Post-operative care of patients undergoing retina, cornea transplant, glaucoma, orbit/plastics, adult strabismus, and high-volume cataract surgeries. Patient population is often elderly and/or diabetic.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RNs, Ophthalmologists, Anesthesiologists, Surgeons, Anesthetic Assistants and Technicians, Resident / Medical Students, Clerical staff, Unit Aide

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

0630 – 1800. Some overtime may be required if surgeries run late or have add on cases.

UNIT PROFILE

3A MEDICAL SURGICAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Service ICU-Medical Surgical

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Level 1 Medical Surgical Intensive Care Unit

UNIT ORIENTATION

Experienced RNs with critical care experience and critical care course
receive 12 orientation shifts with an assigned preceptor following an initial
education day with the Clinical Nurse Educator and education day with the
Clinical Lead. More specific training in delegated medical functions is
provided within the first 4 months. RNs without critical care experience
are enrolled in the critical care onboarding program and then further
sponsored through the part time critical care nurse program to obtain
certification.

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

7 RNs for 8 patients 1:1 with one 2:1

NUMBER OF BEDS

8 ICU Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult critical care patients from the Multi-Organ Transplant Program,
general surgery, thoracic surgery, ear-nose-throat surgery, urological
surgery, gynecological oncology, oral maxillofacial surgeries, the in-patient
dialysis unit, bone marrow transplant unit, hematology/oncology,
gastrointestinal medicine. The MSICU is also the referral center for other
hospitals throughout the province of Nova Scotia requiring specialized
medical surgical care.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory Therapist, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Dietician. Social Work,
Spiritual Care, Occupational Therapist, and other medical services
available on consult.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Must be a graduate of an accredited school of nursing and eligible for
registration in the province of Nova Scotia.
Graduate of an Accredited Critical Care Program and/or critical care
experience preferred.
Alternatively, willingness to complete the Critical Care Onboarding
Program leading to Certification.
ACLS certification is suggested. BCLS is required.

SKILLS REQUIRED

Advanced assessment, critical thinking, and decision-making skills,
strong interpersonal and
communication skills, as well as organizational and teaching skills.

SCHEDULING

Self-Scheduling, 24hours per day, 7 days per week.

STAFFING LEVELS

Day shift
7 Registered Nurses + 1 dedicated Charge Nurse x 7 days a week
1 Clinical Lead (M-F)
1 CTA x 7 days per week
1 Clinical Nurse Educator (M-F)
1 Pharmacist (7 days/week)
1 Physiotherapist (7 days/week)
2 Respiratory Therapists (7 days/week)
1 Unit Aide (7 days/week)
1 Unit Clerk (7 days/week)
1 Social Worker (Shared)
1 Spiritual Care (Shared)
1 Dietitian (M-F) (Shared)
1 Occupational Therapist (Shared)
Night shift
7 Registered Nurses with an assigned charge nurse (7 days a week)
1 Respiratory Therapist (7 days/week)

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RN provides clinical leadership particularily in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings and is accountable for the development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve or optimize patient/client outcomes. Member of code Blue Team. The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. Participation on committees such as the unit based Professional Practice Committee that supports continuous quality activities. The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs and research. All ICU RNs on 3A receive unit provided ACLS training. Advanced opportunities such as training on Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy, wound care, preceptoring and leadership are available for staff.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Intensivist and resident/Fellow on call 24/7

UNIT PROFILE

HEMATOLOGY AND CELL THERAPY AND TRANSPLANT PROGRAM

Service Hematology

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Hematology Clinic and Cell Therapy Transplant Program. Patients who have blood cancers are cared for here (leukemia, myeloma, lymphoma) and people who have benign disorders are also cared for here (ITP, TTP, Iron deficiency Anemia, Peri-op DVTs, bleeding disorder patients, inherited blood disorders (hemoglobinopathies and sickle cell patients).

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Work closely with intradisciplinary team as well as pharmacy, systemic therapy RNs, rural ambulatory areas, DANS, Social Work, psychosocial, blood collection services, home pharmacies, diagnostic imaging departments

STAFFING LEVELS

18 RNs, 4 LPNs, 2 Unit Aides, 7 NPs, 8 Clerical, 3 Cell Therapy Specialists, 2 Cell Therapy Coordinators, 2 quality specialists, 2 data managers

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

This area employs Clerk Bs, Unit Aids, RNs, NPs, LPNs, Quality specialists, Data managers, Cell Therapy Specialists. These varying positions require various educational backgrounds

NUMBER OF BEDS

17 Clinic Rooms

PATIENT POPULATION

Patients who have blood cancers, and patients who have benign disorders.

UNIT ORIENTATION

Ambulatory area located on the 4th floor of the Victoria/Centennial building of the VG hospital.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Primary care nursing. Each RN/LPN is assigned to work with a certain group of patients (either subdivided by disease or by their provider)

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

Monday-Friday 8-4

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Ambulatory clinic – physicians run their clinics out of this clinic

UNIT PROFILE

3B EARS NOSE & THROAT/ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY, OPTHALMOLOGY AND GYNE ONCOLOGY

Service ENT and OMF

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

20 Bed inpatient acute care unit, providing care to ENT, OMF and hospitalist/medicine patients (as well as off service). Providing care to off service patients, Junior staff requiring additional support and education, Vacant positions resulting in staffing challenges, Frequent cancellation of surgical patients, secondary to beds being occupied by off service patients and additional medicine and hospitalist patients, Procurment issues.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

20 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult ENT, OMF and hospitalist/ medicine patients

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, LPN, unit clerks, unit aides, OT, PT, dietary, continuing care, residents, physicians, RT

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

24-hour inpatient unit

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

UNIT PROFILE

5A GYNE ONCOLOGY/RADIATION ONCOLOGY/MEDICAL ONCOLOGY/HOSPITALIST MEDICINE UNIT

Service Oncology and Medicine

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Inpatient unit that services Oncology and medicine patients. Oncology patients consist of post-surgical, symptom management or chemo/radiation treatments. Hospitalist medicine patients are patients that are admitted for various diagnoses for symptom management and discharge planning

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

- APS training and Chemo Certification

NUMBER OF BEDS

27 bed unit

PATIENT POPULATION

Gyne Oncology, Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology and Hospitalist Medicine

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

- Physicians
- Residents
- RNs
- LPNs
- CTAs
- Resource Nurse
- Pharmacy Tech
- PT/OT/SW/Continuing Care
- Unit Aide
- Unit Clerk

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

12 hr shifts of Days/Nights/weekends

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

UNIT PROFILE

5B UROLOGY

Service Urology

Site Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Inpatient unit that services post-surgical Urology population. The unit also serves as the treatment area for Thyroid Radiation patients.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

27 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Surgical Urology + Radiation Oncology

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physicians, residents, RNs, LPNS, CTAs, Resource Nurses, Pharmacy Tech, unit aides, unit clerks, PT/OT/SW/CCNS/Spiritual Care/Dietitian

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

12-hour shifts including days, nights and weekends.

UNIT PROFILE

6A NEPHROLOGY/RENAL TRANSPLANT

Service Nephrology, Renal Transplant

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

6A is a 23-bed acute inpatient unit specializing in nephrology, kidney and liver transplantation, and hepatobiliary surgery. The unit provides care for medically and surgically complex patients, including post-transplant recipients requiring close monitoring, immunosuppression management, and coordinated interdisciplinary care.

UNIT ORIENTATION

New staff participate in a structured unit orientation that includes:
- 12 preceptored clinical shifts
- One Resource Nurse shadow shift prior to independent practice
- Unit-specific education related to transplant, nephrology, and hepatobiliary care
- Completion of required NS Health mandatory education
- Ongoing clinical support from charge nurses and resource nurses

STAFFING LEVELS

Days: Approximately 1 RN to 3–4 patients
Nights: Approximately 1 RN to 4–5 patients

Includes dedicated Charge Nurse and Resource Nurse, CTAs/PSWs, Unit Clerks, and Unit Aides.

NUMBER OF BEDS

23 inpatient beds, with access to a 4-bed Intermediate Care Unit (IMCU) for higher-acuity patients.

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult patients requiring kidney and liver transplant care, hepatobiliary surgical care, complex nephrology management, and high-risk post-operative or medically complex care.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

- Registered Nurses (RNs)
- Charge Nurse and Resource Nurse
- Nephrologists and Surgeons
- Pharmacists
- Dietitians
- Social Workers
- Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy
- Unit Clerks
- Care Team Assistants (CTAs) / PSWs
- Unit Aides

SCHEDULING

12-hour shifts consisting of days and nights, utilizing unit-based scheduling practices.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

- Active registration with the Nova Scotia College of Nursing (NSCN)
- BScN preferred
- Previous acute care experience required
- Nephrology and/or transplant experience considered an asset
- CNA Nephrology Certification considered an asset
- High Acuity Nursing Program (HANP) certification considered an asset

Note: HANP certification is required to work in the Intermediate Care Unit (IMCU). Staff without HANP certification may be eligible for employer-funded HANP training following a minimum of six (6) months of employment on the unit, with a one-year return-of-service agreement.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN–CTA shared care model utilizing a collaborative, team-based approach with shared responsibilities and extended scope for CTAs. Strong emphasis on communication and continuity of care.

MEDICATION SYSTEM

- Pyxis automated medication dispensing system
- Electronic medication administration using NS Health systems
- Bar-code medication administration (BCMA)
- Management of high-risk medications, including immunosuppressive therapies
- Collaboration with clinical pharmacy services

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

- Nephrology
- Transplant Surgery
- Hepatobiliary Surgery
- General Surgery
- On-call specialty coverage as required

UNIT PROFILE

6B TRANSPLANT/GEN SURG (NEPHROLOGY/RENAL TRANSPLANT)

Service Nephrology/Transplant

Site QEII, Victoria General Site, Centennial Building

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Acute care med/surg with a 4 bed IMCU, RN/CTA model of care, self-scheduling, many opportunities for skill development and advanced skills that other areas don't have

RESPONSIBILITIES

NA

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

24+ 4 bed IMCU

PATIENT POPULATION

kidney and liver transplant, general surgery, nephrology as well as Masimo (post op sleep apnea monitoring) for a variety of services at the VG (Uro, Gon, OMF, ENT)

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Multiple physician teams, PT, OT, Diet, Pharm, SW, Continuing care

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

12 hour shifts for RNs

UNIT PROFILE

7A PALLIATIVE CARE

Service Palliative Care

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

7A patients are often admitted from other floors, or straight from the community. The focus of palliative care is improving the quality of life through symptom management and nursing care while promoting dignity.

UNIT ORIENTATION

12 preceptor shifts

STAFFING LEVELS

4 Nurses and 1 CTA 0700-1900, 4 Nurses 1900-0700, Ward Clerk and Charge Nurse 0700-1500 Monday-Friday, Ward Aide 0800-1600 Monday-Friday

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

RN, LPN, CTA certifications, CADD pump training

NUMBER OF BEDS

12 beds, 3 semi-private rooms and 6 private rooms

PATIENT POPULATION

Diverse population of people that are facing life-threating and/or life-limiting diseases, such as cancer.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

CTA, Bereavement Coordinator, Social Worker, Spiritual Care, Community Nurse, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Music Therapy, Volunteers

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Primary Nursing where each nurse is responsible for planning/coordinating/delivering care to assigned patients. There is a strong focus on building therapeutic relationships between nurses and patients as well as continuity of care.

SCHEDULING

24-hour service. RNs and LPNs work 0700-1900 TDs and 1900-0700 TNs. Nurses use a self-scheduling system.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Staff physician and resident in house daily 8-5, Senior internal medicine resident on call evenings and overnight with palliative staff physician

UNIT PROFILE

7B INPATIENT MEDICINE

Service Inpatient Medicine

Site QEII, Victoria General Site, Centennial Building

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Acute Inpatient Medicine

RESPONSIBILITIES

NA

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

18 to evolve into 28 beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Acute Medicine

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Pharmacy, Nursing, CTA, PT, OT, Social Work, Physicians, Continuing Care

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24 hour service
12 hour shifts, holidays, weekends, nights

UNIT PROFILE

9B ALTERNATE LEVEL OF CARE (ALC)

Service Geriatrics/Veterans

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

9 B is an inpatient care area, receiving residents in Central Zone who have been deemed eligible, based on admission criteria to the unit. Residents are generally elderly, and awaiting long-term care placement. 9 B is not a locked unit. There are private and ward rooms and a patient lounge. Model of care is RN/LPN/CTA.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Various competencies and skills. Dementia and elder care, communication and interpersonal skills, commitment to team work.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

17 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Elderly patients, medically stable, but usually have various chronic medical conditions, awaiting long-term care placement.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

CTA/RN/LPN/ward assistant/physician/geriatrics/OT/PT/dietician/recreation therapy/spiritual care/continuing care

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7, 12 hour rotating shifts

UNIT PROFILE

DERMATOLOGY CLINIC PHOTOTHERAPY AND TREATMENT

Service Ambulatory Care Services

Site QEII, Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Consultations, day surgery and phototherapy treatment of skin disease

RESPONSIBILITIES

Strong communication skills. Excellent team work and collaborative working skills. Strong assessment and teaching skills.
Some moderate to heavy lifting is required.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

0-Ambulatory care and treatment

PATIENT POPULATION

Individuals with drug eruptions, skin infection, erythroderma, melanomas, immunobullous conditions, vasculitis, dermatitis, papulosquamous disease, undiagnosed skin conditions, non-melanoma skin cancer (BCC, SCC), acne, alopecia, psoriasis, nail disorders, vitiligo, warts, seborrheic keratosis, solar lentigines

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physicians, Residents, RN, LPN, Clinic Aide, Clerical Support

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

0700-1700
8hr shifts

UNIT PROFILE

EAR, NOSE, AND THROAT (ENT) CLINIC

Service ENT (Ear, Nose, and Throat)

Site QEII, Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Ambulatory Care clinic located on the 3rd floor of the Dixon Building

NUMBER OF BEDS

Exam rooms, and minor procedure rooms.

PATIENT POPULATION

High volume outpatient ENT/ head and neck patients/ oncology patients

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RNs, unit clerk, unit aide, SPD tech, residents, and physicians, SLP

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

8-4 Monday to Friday

RESPONSIBILITIES

Collaborating with Cancer Centre for weekly shared Head and Neck clinic
-Providing education and support to patients.
-Assisting physicians with procedures.
-Collecting and sending specimens.
-Adhering to IPAC standards, related to scope sterilization.
- Aid in supporting and navigating through cancer care journey
-collaborate with Social Work, in seeking resources for the cancer to head and neck patients (comfort and care grants, head and neck fund)
-Working with SLP

-Connecting patients with dietician (recognizing complex feeding needs of head and neck patients)
- Wound care
-Work with Bio-Med and facilities (repairs and improvements)
-Work with vendors providing feedback when sourcing replacement equipment options

UNIT PROFILE

ENDOCRINOLOGY CLINIC

Service Ambulatory Care Services

Site QEII, Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Specialized care and treatment to individuals with hormonal and metabolic disorders

RESPONSIBILITIES

Strong communication skills. Excellent team work and collaborative working skills. Strong assessment and teaching skills.
Some moderate to heavy lifting is required.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

0-Ambulatory care and treatment

PATIENT POPULATION

Individuals with diabetes, thyroid disorders, pituitary disorders, lipid disorders, obesity, adrenal disorders, hormonal disorders and replacement, and osteoporosis. Testing of endocrine functioning.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physicians (Endocrinology, Neurosurgery, ENT, Medical Oncology, Psychology), Residents, RN, RN CDE, PDt, Clinic Aide, Clerical Support

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

0800-1600
8hr shifts; may require on-call work for diabetes patients

UNIT PROFILE

EYE CARE CENTRE

Service Ophthalmology

Site QEII, Centennial Building, Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Provide Ophthalmic Care (diagnostic and therapeutic) to patients from the Atlantic Provinces. The Eye Care Center consists of 3 Areas: Blue Area- Consists of Glaucoma and neuro-ophthalmology patients. The procedures consist of visual field testing, OCT's and laser treatments for patients. Green Area- Consists of retinal and corneal assessments. Lasers, Photos IVF's and OCTA's are performed in this area.
Red- urgent eye conditions ie) uveitis, endophthalmitis, retinal detachments and traumas. Minor procedures are conducted in this area for urgent treatments.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Voluntary membership on unit/hospital committees, for example:
Workplace safety committee
WHIMIS
Accreditation
Infection Control Champions

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Primary, secondary and tertiary care of primarily adult ophthalmic conditions including participating in research trials. Some pediatric care for specific diagnosis

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN's, orthoptist's, ophthalmic technicians and assistants, unit aide and clerical staff

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Monday- Friday 0730-1700. Some overtime may be required for urgent cases

UNIT PROFILE

GASTROENTEROLOGY (GI) CLINIC

Service Ambulatory Care Services

Site QEII, Victoria General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

The Gastroenterology clinic provides care to those with acute and chronic conditions of the upper and lower GI tract.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Strong communication skills. Collaborative working relationships with physicians, NP's, Learners. Strong patient/family teaching skills required. Some moderate to heavy lifting required.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

Ambulatory care clinic

PATIENT POPULATION

GI disorders and cancers, pancreatic and liver diseases and cancers

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

LPN, Physician (Gastroenterology, Hepatology, Irritable Bowel Disease, Colorectal Surgery, General Surgery), Residents, NP, RN, Clerical Support

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Monday to Friday, 0700-1600
8hr shifts

UNIT PROFILE

NOVA SCOTIA WOMEN'S CHOICE CLINIC

Service Ambulatory Care

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Ambulatory Care clinic offering surgical and medication abortion care. There is a provincial self-referral line for information about accessing medical and surgical abortions at the QEII, other locations across the province, and within Canada.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Strong communication skills. Excellent team work and collaborative working skills. Strong assessment and teaching skills. Some moderate to heavy lifting is required. A positive attitude towards health issues, including a patient's right to choose.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

4 recovery chairs

PATIENT POPULATION

Individuals childbearing age (with gestation up to 15 weeks and 6 days) in NS, NB, and PEI. Services are also provided to out-of-country patients.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physicians (Family Medicine, OBYN), Residents, RN, Social Work, Clinic Aide, Clerical Support

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

0700-1500
8hr shifts

UNIT PROFILE

ORAL MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY (OMF) CLINIC

Service Oral Maxillofacial Surgery

Site QEII, Victoria General Hospital, Centennial Building

UNIT DESCRIPTION

High Volume Ambulatory Care Clinic

NUMBER OF BEDS

Ambulatory Care Clinic, providing outpatient care

PATIENT POPULATION

Oral Surgery and Head & Neck

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, clerks, unit aide, residents, dental assistants

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

8-4 Monday to Friday

RESPONSIBILITIES

-pre and post operative care of oral surgy patients, including pre-assessment, providing recovery care to patients who have received procedural sedation, in alignment with NAPAN standards, consults and re-checks
-intraoral x-rays, PANS & CBCT
- working with digital radiography technology
-providing pre and post operative education
-collaborating with IPAC to adhere to infection control standards (ever changing COVID protocols)
- Providing treatment to Head and Neck cancer patients in alignment with Oncology/ Radiation treatment plans
-ordering supplies
-impressions and dental models
-orientation and education
-connecting with a variety of referral sources
-booking patient's ORs

UNIT PROFILE

RADIATION THERAPY SERVICES

Service Radiation Therapy

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Ambulatory outpatient radiation Therapy treatment
7 Linear accelerators, 2 CT simulators, Brachytherapy OR suite, Orthovoltage unit

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

- APS training and Chemo Certification

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Ambulatory Cancer Patients

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Radiation Therapist, Radiation Oncologist, RN, Medical Physicist, Dosimetrist

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

M-F 7:00-17:30
After hours on call Saturday, Sunday & Holidays 8:00-16:00

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

SYSTEMIC THERAPY-11VIC

Service Cancer Care

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Many services- including intravenous (IV) therapies and supportive care for cancer treatment. Provide care to patient within the Maritimes for some specialized care that cannot occur in home provinces

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

22 spots for direct patient care, combination of chairs and beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Medical, and Gynecological cancer patients and Radiation patients on combined therapy

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RNs, clerical, administrative assistant, charge nurse, clinical associates, physicians, spiritual care, social work, pharmacy, housekeeping, infection control, HSM, educator, unit aides, porters, dietary

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

5 days a week Monday to Friday 0730-1700
Holidays 0730-1530

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

UNIT PROFILE

MEDICAL DAY UNIT/APHERESIS

Service Cancer Care

Site QEII, Victoria General Site

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Many services- including intravenous (IV) therapies, cancer treatment, stem cell/CAR-T collections, biopsies, and other procedures. Provide care to patient within the Maritimes for some specialized care that cannot occur in home provinces

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

7 days a week, including holidays Monday to Friday 0730-1700 Weekends and Holidays 0730-1530. On call for Apheresis urgent patients Monday to Friday 1700-2300 Weekends and Holidays 1530-2300

NUMBER OF BEDS

34 spots for direct patient care, combination of chairs, stretchers, and beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Hematology malignancy and non-malignant, Stem Cell, CAR-T, GI, IM, nephrology, DERM, Ophthalmology, Immunology, IR, Hepatology, Urology, Clinical trial, ID, Apheresis, Rheumatology

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

LPNs, RNs, clerical, administrative assistant, charge nurse, clinical associates, physicians, spiritual care, social work, pharmacy, housekeeping, infection control, HSM, educator, unit aides, porters, dietary

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

SCHEDULING

7 days a week, including holidays Monday to Friday 0730-1700 Weekends and Holidays 0730-1530. On call for Apheresis urgent patients Monday to Friday 1700-2300 Weekends and Holidays 1530-2300

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

UNIT PROFILE

3 EAST MEDICAL & CARDIOLOGY UNIT

Service Surgical

Site Dartmouth General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

33 bed post op surgical floor with Pyxis for medication administration and mix of private and semi-private rooms. Unit also receives patients from Emergency and some Medicine patients including Palliative Care patients.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

33 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Post op surgical patients including Orthopedics, General Surgery, Urology, Gynecology, OMF, ENT, Plastics. Age range of patients 16-100years

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Nursing consists of NP's, RN's, LPN's along with some CTA's, Unit Aide and Clerical.Dedicated Physio, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Social Work, Continuing Care, Dietary, Physio assistants

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Mix of 8hr and 12hr shifts with days, evenings and night shifts

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

3 WEST MEDICAL SURGICAL UNITS

Service Medical-Surgical Unit

Site Dartmouth General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Medical-Surgical unit

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

RN, LPN, CTA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

34, 1 code census 2 NTCS (Hallway)

PATIENT POPULATION

Ages 18-100+

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, LPN, URN, CTA. HSA, OT,OT,TA,DPN, SW, Clerks, Unit aides, DPNs, Dietician, Pharmacist, Hospitalist, PA, Surgeon, NP

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN, LPN mix, URN, CTA support

STAFFING LEVELS

6 RN TD, 4 LPN TD, 1 LPN TE, 4 RN TN, 2 LPN TN.
URN coverage 3 TDs/ Week

SCHEDULING

24/7 Rotation Weekends nights and holidays

UNIT PROFILE

4 EAST MEDICAL INPATIENT UNIT

Service Medical Inpatient Unit

Site Dartmouth General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

The 4 East Inpatient Family Medicine Unit serves are variety of adult populations and medical conditions, from acute illness to seniors waiting for placement in long-term care.

UNIT ORIENTATION

Unit orientation is role-dependent. Licensed clinical staff are provided with 12 precepted shifts, based on level of experience, and are reviewed according to individual needs. The orientation period includes real-time feedback from the preceptor, as well as focused check-ins with the Unit Resource Nurse, Clinical Nurse Educator, and Health Services Manager. This approach supports early identification of clinical learning needs, timely incorporation of feedback, and relationship building.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN/LPN

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

- Graduate of an accredited nursing program
- Registered and in good standing with the Nova Scotia College of Nursing (NSCN)
- Basic Life Support (BLS-HCP) certification required

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Hospitalist / Family Medicine

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

34 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult patients. Common diagnoses include: Pneumonia, Heart failure, Lower Urinary Tract Infections, Cellulitis, Palliative Care, Dementia, Renal Failure, Gastrointestinal Bleed, Diabetes

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RN, LPN, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Social Work, Hospitalists, Unit Clerks, Unit Aides, Dietitians, Respiratory Therapy, Spiritual Care, Continuing Care Coordinators, Discharge Planning Nurses, Recreational Therapy, Care Team Assistants, and Health Support Aides.

STAFFING LEVELS

- 10 licensed providers from 0700–1900
- 8 licensed providers from 1900-2300
- 6 licensed providers from 2300-0700
- Coverage provided 7 days per week

Charge Nurse, Unit Resource Nurse, and Clinical Nurse Educator provide additional clinical and operational support beyond these staffing levels.

SCHEDULING

The unit operates 24 hours per day. Licensed clinical staff work a set rotation of days, evenings, nights, weekends, and/or holidays.

UNIT PROFILE

4 WEST CARDIOLOGY/MEDICAL INPATIENT UNIT

Service Cardiology, Family Medicine

Site Dartmouth General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

The 4 West Inpatient Family Medicine Unit is a specialized acute care unit with a focus on cardiology services. The unit provides comprehensive care to adult patients requiring close cardiac monitoring and medical management. It is equipped with a Cardiac Telemetry System capable of monitoring up to 12 beds, allowing for continuous cardiac rhythm observation and timely clinical intervention.

UNIT ORIENTATION

Unit orientation is role-dependent. Licensed clinical staff are provided with 12–16 precepted shifts, based on level of experience, and are reviewed according to individual needs. The orientation period includes real-time and written feedback from the preceptor, as well as focused check-ins with the Unit Resource Nurse, Clinical Nurse Educator, and Health Services Manager. This approach supports early identification of clinical learning needs, timely incorporation of feedback, and relationship building.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

- Graduate of an accredited nursing program
- Registered and in good standing with the Nova Scotia College of Nursing (NSCN)
- Basic Life Support (BLS-HCP) certification required
- Previous cardiac rhythm interpretation course is an asset or must be completed within three (3) months of hire (RN)

NUMBER OF BEDS

29 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Adult patients. Common diagnoses include:

- Heart Failure
- Arrhythmias
- Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) with MI, shock, arrest, or heart failure
- Myocardial Infarction (with or without coronary angiogram)
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Syncope
- Pneumonia

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Registered Nurses (RN), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Social Work, Hospitalists, Unit Clerks, Unit Aides, Dietitians, Respiratory Therapy, Spiritual Care, Continuing Care Coordinators, Discharge Planning Nurses, Recreational Therapy, Care Team Assistants, and Health Support Aides.

STAFFING LEVELS

- 8 licensed providers from 0700–2300
- 7 licensed providers from 2300–0700
- Coverage provided 7 days per week

Charge Nurse, Unit Resource Nurse, and Clinical Nurse Educator provide additional clinical and operational support beyond these staffing levels.

RESPONSIBILITIES

RNs and LPNs utilize the nursing process, critical thinking and problem-solving skills to provide holistic care to individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations across the system. They are responsible for the overall coordination and direction of nursing care and provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings.

The RN has the knowledge, skill and judgment to provide competent, evidenced based nursing practice and is accountable for the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve patient care outcomes. This individual supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. In addition, the RN contributes to the efficient and effective functioning of the unit, coordination of patient care and staffing.

ADDITIONAL UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

Experience considered an asset; Cardiac monitoring, telemetry, geriatric care, palliative care, intermediate care course, physical assessment course.

Patient and family focus, leadership and teamwork, problem-solving skills, committee participation, mentoring, professional development.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN/LPN

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Hospitalist / Family Medicine

SCHEDULING

The unit operates 24 hours per day. Licensed clinical staff work a set rotation of days, evenings, nights, weekends, and/or holidays.

UNIT PROFILE

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Service Emergency Care

Site Dartmouth General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

DGH ED is a 24-bed department that sees patients of all ages (pediatrics through elderly) and all acuity levels from CTAS 1-5.
There are 18 monitored beds in the department, and six 'fast track' beds in our Minor Emergency Area. Also included are two resuscitation bays, an EHS offload/transition area, and two triage spaces. Annual visits to the DGH ED are approximately 45,000 with an average daily volume of 120-125 patients and ~25 ambulances.

UNIT ORIENTATION

This can be variable depending on the previous experience of the newly hired staff member. Orientation is generally 16-24 shifts (more for newly graduated nurses). We also support a 4-day classroom orientation which provides education about focused assessments, review of special populations and targeted presentations, ED processes, care directives, policies, documentation, etc

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Preferred previous emergency experience however newly graduate nurses are also hired. Beneficial to have ACLS, CTAS, EPICC, CNA certification in emergency nursing

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

18 monitored, 6 unmonitored, various virtical care areas

PATIENT POPULATION

DGH ED cares for patients of all ages including pediatric through to geriatric populations. The majority of patients are >65 years of age.
A typical presentation to the Dartmouth General Emergency Department (ED) ranges from low-acuity walk-ins to high-acuity patients requiring resuscitation. Presentations range from minor injuries or ailments to complex, critically ill patients including chest pain, abdominal pain, respiratory illness, musculoskeletal injuries, early pregnancy complications, and mental health & addictions concerns. Many patients are discharged home while others may be admitted to DGH or stabilized and then transferred to other facilities to obtain specialized care (i.e., acute stroke, STEMI, major trauma service).

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Our team includes RNs, LPNs, ACPs, Pharmacist, Continuing Care, Social Work, Mental Health & Addictions Nurse, Clinical Nurse Educators, Med Rec Technologists, Ward Aide, Ward & Registration Clerks, Environmental Services, Security, Volunteers, Discharge Planning Nurses, Seniors Care Team, NPs, and PA's. We also welcome many different learners including RN/LPN/ACP students, Search & Rescue Techs, Clerks, and Residents.

STAFFING LEVELS

Interdisciplinary team, assignment ratios vary depending on area being supported (generally 3-4 beds/RN)

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Varies depending on assignment – mostly primary nursing with some team-based models of care

SCHEDULING

24/7, mostly rotating 12-hour shifts.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

24/7

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

INTENSIVE CARE UNIT (ICU)

Service ICU/CCU

Site Dartmouth General Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Mixture of medical, surgical, and cardiac ICU

UNIT ORIENTATION

8-12 precepted shifts depending on experience level and knowledge of
the site and patient population

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Total patient care

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

ACLS Certification an asset Graduate of an Accredited Critical Care
Program and / or critical care experience

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Closed unit. Mixture of intensivists, cardiologists, respirologists, and general internal medicine. Physician on call 24/7. Provide community placements for residents of the Dalhousie medical school.

NUMBER OF BEDS

8 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Serving a diverse range of clients age 16 and up from a mixture or rural
and urban areas. We see complex post-operative patients, STEMIs, as
well as a wide range of critically ill medical clients. We do not provide CV
surgery, CRRT/dialysis, or ECMO at this community hospital.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory Therapist, Pharmacist, Physiotherapist, Dietician, Social
Work, Spiritual Care, Occupational Therapist, and other medical
services available on consult

SCHEDULING

Rotational collaborative

STAFFING LEVELS

6 RNs on days, 5 RNs on nights.
Unit clerk on day shift, weekend and holidays. Unit aide coverage TD Monday-Saturday, 8hr Sunday.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Registered Nurse (RN) utilizes the nursing process, critical thinking and problem-solving skills to provide holistic care to individuals, families, groups, communities and populations across the life span. The RN is responsible for the overall coordination and direction of nursing care. The RN provides clinical leadership, particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings. The RN has the knowledge, skill and judgment needed to provide competent, evidence based nursing practice. The RN is accountable for the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve patient/client outcomes. The RN supports the development of students and colleagues by acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. The RN contributes to the efficient and effective functioning of the unit, coordination of patient care and staffing.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Member of Code Blue Team. The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. Participation on committees such as the unit based Professional Practice Committee that support continuous quality activities. The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs and research.
The ICU nurse is responsible for the nurse lead QRT response. One qualified nurse is assigned per shift

UNIT PROFILE

CONNECTIONS DARTMOUTH

Service Mental Health and Addictions - Recovery and Integration

Site 842 Portland St

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Team consisting of Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, OT Assistants, Registered Nurses, Recreation Therapists, Psychiatrists and Developmental Worker-providing group programming, clinical care and mental health support both onsite and in the community

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Licensed according to profession.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Psychiatry, onsite and remote coverage daily.

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

SPMI adults living in the community in various levels of housing or homeless

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, OT Assistants, Registered Nurses, Recreation Therapists, Psychiatrists and Developmental Worker, Administrative team members, including clerk and secretary.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30

UNIT PROFILE

MOUNT HOPE ACUTE CARE

Service Mental Health and Addictions

Site Nova Scotia Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

21 bed acute care unit caring for patients experiencing acute psychiatric illness requiring hospitalization to stabilize. Majority are under Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment Act. Ages 19, up to and including seniors.

UNIT ORIENTATION

4-6 weeks for permanent hire and less for experienced Psych RNs applying for casual positions.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Licensure with the NS College of Nursing for RN, RPN, LPN. Registration with the NS College of Social Workers for social work candidates.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

1 full time and 2 part time psychiatrists. 1 shared Hospitalist Monday to Friday. 24/7 On call Psychiatry staff and residents after hours and all other times.

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

21 Male/Female

PATIENT POPULATION

Acutely ill psychiatric patients needing stabilization.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Nursing, 1 Clinical Nurse Lead, Psychiatry (3 staff, 1 resident, 1 med student), 1 Hospitalist, 2 Social Work, 2 Rec Therapy, 2 Unit Clerks, 1 CCA, Pharmacists.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Primary Nursing Model for consistency with therapeutic patient care and Team Based Care.

STAFFING LEVELS

Optimal staffing is 5 RNs, 1 LPN days. 3 RNs, 1 LPN nights. There is 1 CNL, 1 CCA, 2 Social Workers, 2 Rec therapists Monday to Friday 8-4.

SCHEDULING

Long week, short week 12 hour shifts. Every other 3 day weekend off. No individual scheduling, but can switch shifts with other nursing staff.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Registered Nurse (RN) utilizes the nursing process, critical thinking and problem solving skills to provide holistic care to individuals, families, groups, communities and populations across the life span. The RN is responsible for the overall coordination and direction of nursing care. The RN provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings. The RN has the knowledge, skill and judgment needed to provide competent, evidenced based nursing practice. The RN is accountable for the development, implementation and ongoing evaluation of the plan of care to achieve patient/client outcomes.

The RN supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. The RN contributes to the efficient and effective functioning of the unit, collaboration within the interdisciplinary team, coordination of patient care and staffing, The RN accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs, research and continuous quality activities.

UNIT PROFILE

TRANSITION HALL

Service Long stay Psychosocial Rehabilitation

Site Nova Scotia Hospital, Mount Hope Building

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Locked unit Long stay Psychosocial Rehabilitation unit working with clients on their road to recovery and community reintegration.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Strong cohesive team with history of clients being successful after discharge. Psychiatrist available 2 times a week on site but always available through phone contact or zoom meetings.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

Census is 12

PATIENT POPULATION

Diverse mental health disorders such as schizophrenia, Bipolar, Borderline Personality/ Autism /Acquired Brain Injuries/ Concurrent disorders/ Addiction issues to drugs and alcohol

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

HSM /Psychiatrist, Occupational therapist , Occupational assistant , Recreation Therapist, Master Social Worker, Therapeutic Assistants, RNs and LPNs

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24 /7 shifts are 12 hours and some 8 hour

UNIT PROFILE

COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUPPORT AND TREATMENT (COAST)

Service Dual Diagnosis Program, Mental Health and Addictions

Site Nova Scotia Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Outpatient unit for adults with moderate to profound intellectual disabilities and active mental illness. Community treatment and stabilization of acute mental illness.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Adults (19 years and older) with moderate to profound intellectual disabilities and active mental illness.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Psychiatrist, Registered Nurses, Board Certified Behavior Analyst, and Social Worker.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

7:30am to 4:30pm
Monday to Friday

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

AMBULATORY CARE

Service Ambulatory Care

Site Hants Community Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Ambulatory Care

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Community/Clinic

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RNs/Clerk/LPN

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Mon – Friday 8-4 8 hr Shifts

UNIT PROFILE

MAYFLOWER MEADOWS (LONG TERM CARE)

Service Long Term Care

Site Hants Community Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Long Term Care, we are now called Mayflower Meadows instead of Haliburton Place

UNIT ORIENTATION

Yes

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Yes

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

24/7

MEDICATION SYSTEM

We will be installing PYXIS in the next 3 months

NUMBER OF BEDS

31 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Senior

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Continuing Care, Palliative Care Nurses, Occupational Health, Social Work, Pharmacy, Seniors Mental Health, Recreation, Responsive Behavior Consultants, Respiratory Nursing, House Keeping, Unit Clerics.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Care by Design, EDEN

STAFFING LEVELS

2 licenses staff on days (07-1900) , one licensed staff nights (1900-0700), 6 CTAs days (07-1500), 5 CTAs 1500-1900, 3 CTAs 1900-0700, Clinical Leader 0700-1500.

SCHEDULING

In house scheduling, Licensed staff work 12 hr shifts. CTA's work 12 hr. and 8 hr. shifts

UNIT PROFILE

UNIT 500 INPATIENT UNIT

Service Transitional Care

Site Hants Community Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

14 bed unit with Transitional Care patients (Alternate Level of Care) mostly awaiting nursing home placement. Responsible for care, activities of daily living, emotional support. LPNs work to full scope of practice.

UNIT ORIENTATION

Yes

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Yes

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

24/7

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

14 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Transitional Care

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Continuing Care Coordinators, Palliative Care Nursing, Responsive Behavior Consultants, Respiratory, Physio, Occupational Therapists, Social Work, Pharmacy.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Alternate Level of Care, stable and predictable medicine patients

STAFFING LEVELS

2 licensed staff 12hr days, 1 licensed staff 12hr nights. 2 CTA's days, 1 CTA nights.

SCHEDULING

Onsite

UNIT PROFILE

UNIT 200 ACUTE MEDICINE INPATIENT UNIT

Service Acute Medicine Inpatient Unit

Site Hants Community Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Acute Medicine focus on stable medicine and patients who may be waiting for LTC or requires some additional support to discharge home.
Support activities of daily living.
Collaborate with surrounding hospitals and in house ED to ensure patient flow is optimized

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

24 + 2 over census beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Acute medicine, geriatric, palliative, ALC, LTC, telemetry

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Respiratory, Physio, Occupational Therapists, Social Work, Continuing Care, Pharmacy, Palliative Care, Recreation Therapy, Dietician, Mental Health and Addictions

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7/365, 12 hour shifts

UNIT PROFILE

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS WEST HANTS

Service Community Mental Health & Addictions

Site Hants Community Hospital
c/o Room2123, 2nd Floor
89 Payzant Drive Windsor

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Community Outpatient Clinic
By appointment only

RESPONSIBILITIES

The team provides assessment, diagnosis and treatment, and outreach services that can help people to manage mental illness, addictions and concurrent disorders. The team works with individuals, families, community organizations, family physicians and others. Treatment may include individual or group therapy.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Adults living with mental illness, addictions and concurrent disorders.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Clinical social workers, clinical therapists, Registered Nurses, community outreach worker, occupational therapist, psychologists, psychiatrists, administrative staff, learners

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Monday-Friday 830 am – 430 pm, Tuesday evenings until 730 pm

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Service Emergency Department

Site Hants Community Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Emergency

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

10 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Community/Emergent

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RNS/ Clerks

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7 12hr shifts

UNIT PROFILE

OPERATING ROOM / POST ANESTHESIA CARE UNIT (OR-PACU)

Service Perioperative Services

Site Hants Community Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Day Surgery/ PACU/ OR/ Endoscopy

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

2 ORs, 8 PACU, 8 Day Surgery

PATIENT POPULATION

Surgical patients.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

RNS/ Clerk/ LPN

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Mon – Friday 8-4 8 hr Shifts

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Service Emergency Services

Site Twin Oaks Memorial Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Level 4 Community Emergency Department , CEC model overnight with VUC option during the day

NUMBER OF BEDS

4 Beds

PATIENT POPULATION

Children to elderly

UNIT ORIENTATION

Varies depending on needs of the clinical staff, supported by Clinical Lead and Clinical Nurse Educator

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Nursing (RN, LPN), Continuing Care Assistants, Laboratory, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Palliative Care, Continuing Care, Diagnostic Imaging, Physicians, Dietician/Food & Nutrition Services, Environmental Services, Mental Health & Addictions, Nurse Practitioners, RN-Prescriber(s)

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

RN License

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN, NP and RN-AP with physician

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Family Physician

STAFFING LEVELS

2-3 RNs and 1NP, 1 physician. CEC is 1 RN/Paramedic

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

SCHEDULING

Open 0800-2000, CEC 2000-0800

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

INPATIENT UNIT

Service Medicine Services

Site Twin Oaks Memorial Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Inpatient medicine unit, consisting of a variety of admitting reasons, including: palliative care, post-surgical strengthening, COPD, pneumonia, digestive concerns, cardiac-related, dementia, open wound, syncope, cellulitis, fracture, pain mgmt., waiting for LTC, dialysis (twin bag).
Responsible for care, activities of daily living, emotional support, assisting with Rec/Leisure activities, responsive behaviours.
RN-charge nurse
LPN-support to ED ad hoc
Collaborate with surrounding hospitals and in-house ED to ensure patient flow is optimized

UNIT ORIENTATION

Varies depending on needs of the clinical staff, supported with Clinical Lead and Clinical Nurse Educator

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

RN/LPN Licensing required, CTA requires registration

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Weekday coverage

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

15 but can physically go up to 17 when over census

PATIENT POPULATION

Adults to elderly, often Eastern Shore community members

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Nursing (RN, LPN), Continuing Care Assistants, Laboratory, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Palliative Care, Continuing Care, Diagnostic Imaging, Physicians, Dietician/Food & Nutrition Services, Environmental Services, Mental Health & Addictions, Nurse Practitioners, RN-Prescriber(s)

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

RN Charge /LPN team with patient assignments. CTA and Clinical Lead support (M-F)

STAFFING LEVELS

TD- RNx1, LPNx1/ D- LPNx1/ E- LPNx1 /TN- RNx1, CTAx1

SCHEDULING

8-12 hr day shifts, 8 hour evening shift, and 12 hr TN shifts, CTAs 12 hours TN

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

INPATIENT/EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Service Inpatient Unit, Collaborative Emergency Clinic (CEC), Ambulatory Care

Site Musquodoboit Valley Memorial Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Inpatient unit with a focus on ALC patients who may be waiting for LTC or require some additional support to discharge home. We also have a CEC which operates 8am-8pm, with an ambulatory Care Clinic that supports the rural community of Musquodoboit Valley .
Responsible to support activities of daily living, emotional support, assisting with Recreation/Leisure activity.
Collaborate with surrounding hospitals and in house ED to ensure patient flow is optimized

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

6 beds with a 7th dedicated for Palliative Care Patients from community.

PATIENT POPULATION

Low acuity care, ALC and those patients awaiting long term care placement

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physicians, Continuing Care, Mental Health, Physio, OT, Social Work, Public Health, Recreational Therapy, Dietician, Palliative Care, Seniors Mental Health

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24hr service In-patients and 12hr Day CEC:
RN- 12hr days and nights
LPN- 12hr days and nights.
Share a Clinical Lead with attached LTC facility (Braeside)
CTA's 8hr shifts 7 days/week

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

INPATIENT/EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Service Inpatient Unit, Ambulatory Care, Emergency Department, Adult Day Clinic, Palliative Care Community Nursing

Site Eastern Shore Memorial Hospital

UNIT DESCRIPTION

ESMH has a small inpatient unit for stable medicine patients along with a Emergency Department/Ambulatory Care Clinic that supports the rural community of Sheet Harbour and surrounding area. Included onsite is an Adult Day Clinic, access to Continuing Care Coordination and the Allied Health Team. Community Palliative Care and some Mental Health & Addictions services are available. Responsible for care, activities of daily living, emotional support, assisting with Recreation/Leisure activity support, responsive behaviours.
Collaborate with surrounding hospitals and in house ED to ensure patient flow is optimized

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

5 with a 6th bed dedicated for Palliative Care

PATIENT POPULATION

Low acuity / stable Medicine, ALC and patients awaiting long term care placement

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physicians, Continuing Care, Mental Health, Physio, OT, Social Work, Public Health, Hearing and Speech, Recreational Therapy, Adult Day Clinic, Dietician, Palliative Care

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24hr service:
RN- 12hr days and nights
LPN- 12hr days and nights.
CTA's 8hr shifts 7 days/week

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

HARBOURVIEW LODGE

Service Long Term Care

Site Harbourview Lodge (Sheet Harbour)

UNIT DESCRIPTION

3 house facility all on one level – large single rooms, beautiful bright living space for elders.
Eden Philosophy of Care.
LPN's work to their full scope of practice and staff will cross train to acute care

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

32 (28 Nursing home and 4 RCF)

PATIENT POPULATION

Long Term Care

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Continuing Care Coordinators, Palliative Care Nursing, Responsive Behaviour Consultants,Respiratory, Physio, Occupational Therapists, Social Work, Pharmacy, Seniors Mental Health

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

12-hour shifts (7am-7pm)
1 RN, 2 LPNs and 6 CCAs- day shift
1 LPN and 3 CCA's- night shift (RN oversight from adjacent hospital)

UNIT PROFILE

FIRST NATIONS CLINICIANS

Service Child & Youth clinical therapists – First Nations

Site Indian Brook Health Center

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Primarily based out of the Health Center, with access to local MH&A office sites (i.e. Lloyd E Matheson Center).

UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

Clinician provides mental health screening, assessment, crisis intervention, and treatment services to residents of Indian Brook First Nations Community. The clinician operates as a member of the Health Centre's collaborative care team and also provides liaison between those teams and Mental Health and Addictions, NSHA.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

Graduate level degree in Social Work, Nursing or Occupational Therapy required.

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

First Nations child, youth and families.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

NA

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

Mainly 8:30am-4:30am, with occasional evening work.

UNIT PROFILE

LEGACY OF LIFE ORGAN DONATION PROGRAM

Service Organ donation program

Site 5657, Spring Garden Road, Suite 300, 3rd floor, Park Lane Terraces, Halifax NS B3J 3R4

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Mobile team: including in office work, on different Critical Care area units.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

General public and Health Care provider education and awareness around Organ Donation. Provincial audits and reporting requirements. Meeting Health Canada Standards for Organ Donation.
for ODCs: Critical Care background

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Medical director and Deputy Medical Director

SCHEDULING

8 hour shifts. Day and Evening (and weekends). including 24/7 on-call requirements based on rotation.

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

Critical Care (ED and ICU). Deceased Organ Donation consultation and clinical services

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Social worker, Database Analyst, Quality Lead, Project Lead, Administrative assistant, Organ Donation Coordinators (RN with ICU experience)

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

UNIT PROFILE

7TH FLOOR NSRAC ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY REHABILITATION SERVICES

Service ABI

Site Nova Scotia Rehabilitation and Arthrits Centre

UNIT DESCRIPTION

We offer a full range of inpatient therapies to individuals who have experienced an acquired brain injury due to trauma, stroke, or illness. We provide specialized interdisciplinary rehabilitative care. Typical lengths of stay are 6 weeks but may be longer or shorter depending on the patient's needs. The NSRAC is a provincial rehabilitation centre, therefore patients may be admitted from all over Nova Scotia. As part of our care, we work together with patients and families to plan for a safe and successful transition to the next stage of their rehabilitation at home or in their community.

RESPONSIBILITIES

UNIT ORIENTATION

3 month mentorship with a preceptor

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

Physiatry and Hospitalist – Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

MEDICATION SYSTEM

Pyxis

NUMBER OF BEDS

23

PATIENT POPULATION

Stroke, traumatic brain injury, brain tumors, anoxic brain injuries, aneurysm, encephalitis, and other acquired brain injuries.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physiatrist, hospitalist, RN, LPN, CTA, ward assistant/unit aid, unit clerk, OT, PT, OTA, PTA, SW, recreation therapist, therapeutic assistants (TA), clinical psychologist, neuropsychology, SLP, continuing care coordinator, clinical nurse leader, interprofessional clinical leader, program manager.

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

Rehab Nursing 24/7

STAFFING LEVELS

7 nursing staff 0700-1500
6 nursing staff 1500-1900
5-6 nursing staff 1900-2300
3 nursing staff 2300-0700

SCHEDULING

Nursing scheduler covering three inpatient units

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

NRSAC

Service Neurology and spinal cord injury (Neuro/SCI)

Site Nova Scotia Rehabilitation and Arthritis Center

UNIT DESCRIPTION

5th floor is a tertiary Rehabilitation inpatient unit for neuro and SCI patients from within Nova Scotia and sometimes parts of Atlantic Canada, We admit patients from other hospitals or home based on a consult. Patient who are here require intense rehabilitation before transitioning home or to their next stage of care. They should be medically stable and able to tolerate daily therapy.

PATIENT POPULATION

Spinal cord injury

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

21 Beds

RESPONSIBILITIES

We sometimes admit neuro/SCI patients who require a medical procedure elsewhere but need our services before or afterwards. We will also admit other patient populations to the unit depending on the waitlists for services in the building.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Physiatrist, hospitalist, RN, LPN, CTA, unit aid, unit clerk, OT, PT, OTA, PTA, SW, recreation therapist, clinical nurse leader

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

24/7
Shifts are a combination of 7.5 an 12 hour

UNIT PROFILE

AMBULATORY ONCOLOGY CLINICS AND GYNECOLPOSCOPY

Service Cancer Care

Site QEII, Victoria General Site, Cobequid Health Centre

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Outpatient clinics that provide cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, follow-up and supportive care for patients.

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

Approximately 55 exam rooms

PATIENT POPULATION

Gynecology, Radiation Oncology, Medical Oncology and Hematology

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

- Physicians
- Clinical Associates
- Residents
- Nurse Practitioners
- RNs
- LPNs
- Psychosocial Team
- Pharmacy

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

SCHEDULING

Monday-Friday 0830-1630

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA

UNIT PROFILE

nova scotia health

CONTINUING CARE – INTAKE & NOAT (NURSING ONLY AUTHORIZATION TEAM)

Service Continuing Care

Site All zones

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Responds to calls from CC 1-800# requesting service. Receives referrals and orders for all CC services – may need to contact referents for further information if required. Does Intake for Adult Protection. Office position – all communications with clients is over the phone. Determines eligibility for CC services. Screen and assesses clients over the phone, completes service plans as required.

Office located on Joseph Howe Drive – free parking
Possibility of a hybrid work from home arrangement
CCRA pay scale is not the same as LPN pay scale - $3 per hour less

UNIT ORIENTATION

NA

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION REQUIRED

NA

NUMBER OF BEDS

NA

PATIENT POPULATION

All ages

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

All LPNs and admin

NURSING MODEL OF CARE

NA

MEDICATION SYSTEM

NA

STAFFING LEVELS

NA

SCHEDULING

7 day per week service – 8:30 am to 4:30 pm business hours
Weekends are on a rotation – 1:5 weekends

PHYSICIAN COVERAGE

NA