



Unit Name 3West

Unit Location Dartmouth General Hospital

Program Surgical and Medicine

Nova Scotia Health Authority Inpatient Service Profile

The purpose of this Profile is to provide Nurses with an overview of each service area.

<u>General Information</u>	
Service	Surgery and General Medicine
Site	Dartmouth General Hospital
Brief description of the Unit	General Nursing Unit with Orthopedics, General Surgery, ENT, Plastic Surgery, Urology, Gynecology, OMF as well as General Medicine patients. The unit cares for acutely ill patients and does not have an Intermediate Care Unit (IMCU)
Unit Orientation	New staff attends general orientation for Central Zone covering topics such as how the interdisciplinary team works, specific equipment review and common basic nursing skills required on the unit. The Dartmouth General Hospital (DGH) orientation covers processes specific to DGH such as Code Blue and Quick Response Team (QRT) Staff are then preceptored with a staff member from the unit. Experienced nurses can expect 6-8 shifts and new graduates 12-14 shifts. Orientation is flexible based on individual learning needs.
Number of Beds	36 Monday-Friday and 32 on weekends

Patient Care

Patient Population	25 beds are primarily post-op surgery (Orthopedics, Urology, Gynecology, Plastics, General, Oral Maxillary Facial surgery, Otolaryngology) with 11 General Medicine beds as well. General Medical-Surgical nursing care including Patient – controlled Analgesic (PCA) pumps, Epidurals, Negative Pressure Wound Therapy care and many other related skills.
Average Patient Age Range	Range from 14 to >100, average 45-75
Nursing Model of Care	Primary Nursing: _____ Team Nursing: _____ Other: _____ Total Patient Care: <u>X</u> Modified Total Patient Care: _____ Other:

Systems

Medication System	Traditional: _____ Unit Dosage: _____ Other: <u>X</u> Other: Unit Dose Medication System (Pyxis)
Scheduling	Manager: <u>X</u> (Central Staffing Office) Self: _____
Average Number of Staff per Shift	M-F RN x5 (TD) + charge nurse (D)+ 11-1900 x1 Sat, Sun RN x5 (TD) M-Sun RNx4 (TN) M-Sun LPNx4 (0700-2300) M-Thurs LPNx2 (TN) F, Sat, Sun LPNx1 (TN)
Service Hours	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Length of Shift	8hr <u>X</u> 12hr <u>X</u> other _____

Staff

Staff Mix	RN <u>60%</u> LPN <u>40%</u> CTA <u>0%</u>
Physician Coverage	Resident on Call <u> </u> Family Physician/Hospitalist <u>X</u> Other <u>X</u> (Subspecialties) Nurse Practitioner <u>X</u>
Multidisciplinary Team Members	Social Work, Nutrition, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Spiritual Care, Pharmacy, Respiratory, Continuing Care

Required Skills, Qualifications & Experience

RN

Registered Nurses provide professional nursing services, deliver health education programs and provide consultative nursing services to promote maintain and restore patient health.

• 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 and is responsible for the overall coordination and direction of nursing care. He/she provides clinical leadership particularly in complex or unpredictable patient/client care settings and 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 and supports the development of students and colleagues through acting as a preceptor and providing ongoing mentorship. This individual contributes to the efficient and effective functioning of the unit, coordination of patient care and staffing and accepts responsibility for maintaining and continually enhancing competencies through ongoing professional development including participation in education programs, research and continuous quality activities.

The RN practices according to the Canadian Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses, the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia Standards of Nursing Practice, specialty standards as applicable and the

	policies and procedures of the Nova Scotia Health Authority.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills Required 	General medical/surgical nursing skills, shared competencies (Central lines, TPN, chest tubes, NG tube insertion, IV initiation, IV push, Port-a-Cath, PICC line, PCA, Epidurals, etc.), technical skills in the use of a variety of pumps, vital signs monitoring, specialized beds, etc., well-developed assessment skills, organizational skills, interpersonal skills, and ability to delegate appropriately.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Responsibilities 	Inclusive of but not limited to patient education, precepting new staff.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional License/Certification/Education required 	Experience Considered an Asset: Acute Care Medical-Surgical experience in a non-teaching community or Regional hospital.

Completed by: Shawna Warner

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