**Unit Name** Same Day Admission Clinic, Pre & Post Op Surgical Care

**Unit Location** Dartmouth General Hospital

**Program** Surgical Services

**Nova Scotia Health Authority Inpatient & Outpatient Service Profile**

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

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### General Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Same Day Admission Clinic, Pre and Post OP Surgical Care</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Dartmouth General Hospital</td>
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**Brief description of the Unit**

Pre-op Surgery: is the unit whereby patients arrive the day of their scheduled surgery. In this phase of preoperative care patients are assessed for readiness for surgery and any final testing and monitoring is complete. The aim of preoperative care is to assess and prepare the patient for surgery that will provide for the best outcomes. Providing pre-op comfort and education is paramount to patient care experience.

Same Day Admission Clinic: is the unit whereby the nurse and anesthesia review all surgical admissions to ensure patients have all testing required for safe surgical care. This clinic occurs prior to the day of patient admission and therefore if patients have unique clinical needs/ equipment this can be arranged prior to admission. Education is also provided to patients at this time.

Post OP Surgery: PACU is the unit whereby postoperative care is provided to patients recovering from anesthesia. The critical care nurses are charged with many vital tasks for the care of post-anesthesia and post-operative patients.
These essential activities include airway management and oxygen administration, monitoring vital signs, managing post-operative pain treating symptoms of postoperative nausea and vomiting.

**Unit Orientation**

Orientation requirements are typically 2-3 mons in duration, however, this is dependent on the skill set, education and experience of the nurse.

**Number of Beds**

9 PACU Bays to support 4/5 Surgical Theatres

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### Patient Care

**Patient Population**

Various patients in terms of age and surgical intervention.

See description of unit for detailed care that is received.

**Average Patient Age Range**

16 and inclusive of all adults.

**Nursing Model of Care**

Primary Nursing: **X**

Team Nursing: _____

Other: _____

Total Patient Care: _____

Modified Total Patient Care: _____

Other: _____

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### Systems

**Medication System**

Traditional: **X**

Unit Dosage: _____

Other: _____

Other: _____

**Scheduling**

Manager: **X**

Self: _____

**Average Number of Staff per Shift**

Days: RN 10, LPN 1, CTA

Evenings: RN 2, LPN, CTA

Nights: RN 2 & call LPN, CTA

**Service Hours**

0630-2300 M-F
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of Shift</th>
<th>8hr: <em>X</em></th>
<th>12 hr: ____</th>
<th>Other: <strong>10 hour</strong></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other: some 10 hour day shifts</td>
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### Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Mix</th>
<th>RN: <em>90</em> %</th>
<th>LPN: <em>10</em> %</th>
<th>CTA: ____%</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>Physician Coverage</th>
<th>On Call: <em>X</em></th>
<th>On Site: <em>X</em></th>
<th>N/A: ____</th>
<th>Other: ____</th>
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</thead>
</table>

**Multidisciplinary Team Members**

Surgeons, Anesthetists, Unit Aide, Nursing staff

### 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**
  
  In pre-op patients are assessed for readiness for surgery and any final testing and monitoring is complete.

  In PACU the perianesthesia nurses are charged with many vital tasks for the care of post-anesthesia and post-operative patients. These essential activities include airway management and oxygen administration, monitoring vital signs, managing post-operative pain treating symptoms of postoperative nausea and vomiting.

- **Skills Required**
  
  Cardiac monitoring, Venipuncture for IV insertion and blood collection, Port-a-cath access, strong interpersonal and communication skills, assessment and patient teaching skills; discharge of a patient post general,
IV conscious sedation; airway management, IV push narcotics, cardioversion, arterial and CVP monitoring, administration of blood products; ability to prioritize and work as a member of a multidisciplinary team.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Additional Responsibilities</th>
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<tr>
<th>Additional License/Certification/Education required</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Care Nursing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMCU</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCN- preferred</td>
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**Completed by:** Archie MacKinnon  **Date:** July 07, 2015