**Unit Name** 7.1 Cardiovascular Surgery and Ventricular Assist Device Therapy

**Unit Location** 7.1 Halifax Infirmary

**Program** Heart Health - Acute Care

**Nova Scotia Health Authority Inpatient Service Profile**

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

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### Patient Care

**Patient Population**  
Pre and postoperative care of cardiovascular surgery patients. Patients are admitted to CVICU postoperatively, transferred to IMCU then to general ward.

**Average Patient Age Range**  
40-85

**Nursing Model of Care**  
Primary Nursing: _____  Team Nursing: _____  Other: _____  Total Patient Care: ____
Modified Total Patient Care: _____
Other: 

### Systems

**Medication System**  
Traditional: _____  Unit Dosage: ____  Other: _____
Other: 

**Scheduling**  
Manager: ____  Self: ____

**Average Number of Staff per Shift**  
Days:  
   RN 12  
   LPN _____  
   CTA _____
Evenings:  
   RN 12  
   LPN _____  
   CTA _____
Nights:  
   RN 10  
   LPN _____  
   CTA _____

**Service Hours**  
24/7

**Length of Shift**  
8hr: ____  12 hr: ____  Other: ____
Other: 

### Staff

**Staff Mix**  
RN: 95%  LPN: 5%  CTA: ____%

**Physician Coverage**  
On Call: ____  On Site: ____  N/A: _____  Other: ____

**Multidisciplinary Team Members**  
Pharmacists, Social Work, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietician, Respiratory Therapist, Nurse Practitioner, Diabetes Case Manager, VAD Case Manager, Home Care. Other services available on consult.
### 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 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, 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. |
| 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. |
| Additional Responsibilities | 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. |
| Additional License/Certification/Education required | Current BLS, IMCU course, APS certification, participation in unit and hospital based education sessions as applicable. |