



**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.**

<u><b>General Information</b></u>	
<b>Service</b>	Cardiovascular Surgery and Ventricular Assist Device Therapy
<b>Site</b>	Halifax Infirmary - 7.1
<b>Brief description of the Unit</b>	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.
<b>Unit Orientation</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Number of Beds</b>	21 floor plus 12 IMCU = 33 beds

### Patient Care

<b>Patient Population</b>	Pre and postoperative care of cardiovascular surgery patients. Patients are admitted to CVICU postoperatively, transferred to IMCU then to general ward.
<b>Average Patient Age Range</b>	40-85
<b>Nursing Model of Care</b>	Primary Nursing: _____ Team Nursing: _____ Other: _____ Total Patient Care: <u>X</u> Modified Total Patient Care: _____  <b>Other:</b>

### Systems

<b>Medication System</b>	Traditional: _____ Unit Dosage: <u>X</u> Other: _____  <b>Other:</b>
<b>Scheduling</b>	Manager: <u>X</u> Self: <u>X</u>
<b>Average Number of Staff per Shift</b>	Days: RN <u>12</u> LPN _____ CTA _____ Evenings: RN <u>12</u> LPN _____ CTA _____ Nights: RN <u>10</u> LPN _____ CTA _____
<b>Service Hours</b>	24/7
<b>Length of Shift</b>	8hr: _____ 12 hr: <u>X</u> Other: _____  <b>Other:</b>

### Staff

<b>Staff Mix</b>	RN: <u>95</u> % LPN: <u>5</u> % CTA: _____%
<b>Physician Coverage</b>	On Call: <u>X</u> On Site: <u>X</u> N/A: _____ Other: _____
<b>Multidisciplinary Team Members</b>	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.

**Completed by:** Vicki Wiseman – Health Services Manager

**Date:** June 25, 2015