



Unit Name Heart Function Clinic

Unit Location 2nd Floor Halifax Infirmary

Program Heart Health

Nova Scotia Health Authority Outpatient Service Profile

<u>General Information</u>	
Service	Hearth Function Clinic
Site	2 nd Floor, Halifax Infirmary
Brief description of the Unit	Patients from throughout the Atlantic Provinces who are diagnosed with congestive heart failure. Approximately 10 patients per day.
Unit Orientation	Length of orientation time can vary depending on employee.
Number of Beds	4 Clinic Rooms

Patient Care

Patient Population	Patients diagnosed with congestive heart failure.
Average Patient Age Range	Approximately 50 – 60 years of age
Nursing Model of Care	Primary Nursing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Team Nursing: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Total Patient Care: <input type="checkbox"/> Modified Total Patient Care: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Primary Care to patients and their family/support system.

Systems

Medication System	Traditional: <input type="checkbox"/> Unit Dosage: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Depending on patients' status, medications such as oral or intravenous lasix may be required to be provided by the RN/NP
Scheduling	Manager: <input type="checkbox"/> Self: <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Average Number of Staff per Shift	Days: RN <u>1</u> & 1 NP <u>8</u> hr days Mon-Fri
Service Hours	0800 hr – 1600 hr, Monday-Friday (excluding Holidays)
Length of Shift	8hr: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12 hr: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Staff

Staff Mix	RN: <u>50</u> % NP <u>50</u> %
Physician Coverage	On Call: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On Site: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A: <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <input type="checkbox"/>

Multidisciplinary Team Members	Registered Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Registration Clerk, Cardiologist, Geriatrician, Research Coordinators, Diabetes Case Manager, Social Worker, Psychologist, Dietician
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<u>Required Skills, Qualifications & Experience</u>	
RN <i>Registered Nurses provide professional nursing services, deliver health education programs and provide consultative nursing services to promote, maintain and restore patient health.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibilities 	<p>Responsible for the assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of care.</p> <p>Strong emphasis placed on patient education through individual and group sessions both in the ambulatory setting and the community.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills Required 	<p>Thorough knowledge and understanding of heart failure including causes, treatments and potential effects on the patient’s other health systems; strong interpersonal, communication (including over the telephone), critical thinking and decision making skills; organizational and teaching skills; post entry level skills such as IV initiation, blood specimen collection and IV push medications; ability to thoroughly assess cardiac patients and interpret blood work results and know when a consultation to a physician is required; ability to work independently and as part of a health care team; data entry into Heart Failure network database after each patient visit.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Responsibilities 	<p>Provides education session for outpatients with heart failure; preceptor and support the education of nursing, nurse practitioner and medical students; support of Heart Transplant Clinic emergencies when the Heart Transplant RN is away; assessment of the needs of the patient and ability to identify if other disciplines such as social work, physiotherapy, dietician, psychology, pharmacist, etc. should be consulted to assist in the patient’s care; network with the Canadian Congestive Heart Failure Society.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional License/Certification/Education required 	<p>Understanding of computers/databases; knowledge regarding cardiac tests such as cardiac catheterization, PCI, EPS, ECHO, EST etc., as well as the ability to educate patients regarding the rationale for and what to expect; knowledge of the requirements of the heart transplant population including immunosuppressive therapy and ability to interpret blood work results.</p>

Completed by: Michelle Morrison

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