



**Unit Name** Heart Transplant Clinic

**Unit Location** 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Halifax Infirmary

**Program** Heart Health

## **Nova Scotia Health Authority Outpatient Service Profile**

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

<b><u>General Information</u></b>	
<b>Service</b>	Heart Transplant Clinic
<b>Site</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Halifax Infirmary
<b>Brief description of the Unit</b>	Tertiary care center for the Atlantic Provinces for patients requiring the assessment for heart transplantation as well as transplant related follow up care post heart transplant.  Currently ~ 200 active patients
<b>Unit Orientation</b>	Length of orientation time can vary depending on employee.
<b>Number of Beds</b>	3 clinic rooms

**Patient Care**

<b>Patient Population</b>	Patients, pre and post heart transplant, including those with heart failure and/or ventricular assist devices.
<b>Average Patient Age Range</b>	Approximately 17 – 70 years of age
<b>Nursing Model of Care</b>	Primary Nursing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Team Nursing: _____ Other: _____ Total Patient Care: _____ Modified Total Patient Care: _____  <b>Other:</b> Primary care of the patient and their family/support system

**Systems**

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

**Staff**

<b>Staff Mix</b>	RN: <u>100</u> % LPN: _____ % CTA: _____ %
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<b>Physician Coverage</b>	On Call: <u> X </u> On Site: X <u> </u> N/A: <u> </u> Other: <u> </u>
<b>Multidisciplinary Team Members</b>	Nursing: including ventricular assist device and donor/recipient coordinators, Social Worker (2), Psychologist, Dietician, Cardiologist (4), Pharmacist, Cardiovascular transplant Surgeons (6), Cardiology researchers, Registration Clerk, Unit Aid

**Required Skills, Qualifications & Experience**

<b>RN</b> <i>Registered Nurses provide professional nursing services, deliver health education programs and provide consultative nursing services to promote, maintain and restore patient health.</i>	
<b>• Responsibilities</b>	Responsible for the assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation of care. Strong emphasis placed on patient education through individual and group sessions both in the ambulatory setting and the community.
<b>• Skills Required</b>	Thorough knowledge and understanding of heart transplantation including health conditions that may lead to transplant requirement such as heart failure, myocardial infarction, congenital defects, etc. Knowledge and understanding of transplant medications such as immunosuppressive therapy required. Ability to assess the patient, interpret blood work results and know when to consult a physician; 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 and maintenance, blood specimen collection, IV push medications; ability to work independently and as part of a health care team; data entry into Heart Transplant database.
<b>• Additional Responsibilities</b>	Ability to assess the needs of the patient and identify if other disciplines such as social work, physiotherapy, psychology, pharmacist, etc. should be consulted to assist in the patient’s care. Follow up support to the patient and the health care team of heart transplant patients who are admitted to the Halifax Infirmary; coordination of follow up clinic visits, including arrangement for additional cardiac testing that may be required prior to each visit; support of heart function clinic emergencies when the Heart Function Clinic RN is away; scheduling of multidisciplinary transplant meetings; ensuring donor/recipient coordinators are aware of accurate transplant list.
<b>• Additional License/Certification/Education require</b>	Understanding of computers/databases; knowledge regarding cardiac tests such as cardiac catheterization, PCI, cardiac biopsy, EPS, ECHO, EST etc., as well as the ability to educate patients regarding the rationale for and what to expect.

**Completed by:** Michelle Morrison

**Date:** July 10, 2015