**Unit Name**  Rheumatology Clinic  

**Unit Location**  Nova Scotia Rehabilitation & Arthritis Care Centre  

**Program**  Rehabilitation & Supportive Care Services and the Division of Rheumatology  

**Nova Scotia Health Authority Inpatient Service Profile**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Service</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Site</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brief description of the Unit</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Unit Orientation** | Preference for hiring nurses with medical surgical experience and focus in acute assessment and education. Outpatient experience is an asset  
  Orientation is based on needs of new hire. Where competencies are needed for delivering methotrexate injection/TB testing/IM injections/phlebotomy, clinical nurse educator involved. Orientation includes some shadowing opportunities with experienced staff, self-directed learning with orientation binder as guide, expectations for individuals to identify learning needs and an individual plan will be made |
| **Number of Beds**  |  |
### Patient Care

**Patient Population**

Patients being referred for a potential diagnosis of inflammatory arthritis. New and return patients living with inflammatory arthritis - focus on ‘treat to target’ to minimize and/or prevent functional disability and co-morbidities associated with inflammatory arthritis. Deliver evidence informed outpatient interventions & therapies known to positively impact inflammatory arthritis disease impact e.g. methotrexate injections & patient/family teaching to self-administer.

**Average Patient Age Range**

17-90

**Nursing Model of Care**

Primary Nursing: ____  
Team Nursing: X  
Other: ____  
Total Patient Care: ____

Modified Total Patient Care: ____

Other: __________

### Systems

**Medication System**

Traditional: ____  
Unit Dosage: ____  
Other: ____

Other: ______

**Scheduling**

Manager: X  
Self: ______

**Average Number of Staff per Shift**

Days: RN 1-2  
LPN 2

Evenings: RN ____  
LPN ____

Nights: RN ____  
LPN ____

**Service Hours**

8:00-5:00, Monday-Friday

**Length of Shift**

8hr X  
12hr ____  
Other____

Other: ________
Staff

Staff Mix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RN</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPN</td>
<td>62.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physician Coverage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On Call:</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On Site:</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Family Physician/ Hospitalist: X

Multidisciplinary Team Members

The clinic also has part of a physiotherapist, medication resource specialist and clinic aide

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
  
  Nursing focus on early education, medication reconciliation, medication administration and self-management of inflammatory arthritis. Nurses are responsible to manage a patient phone line including assessing/triaging/educating/recommending appropriate course of action to patient medical inquiries. Liaising & collaborating with other members of the multi-disciplinary team and external agencies (pharmacies, private medical insurance, pharmaceutical agencies) related to patient care, medications/coverage etc.

- Skills Required
  

- Additional Responsibilities
  
  Occasionally required to start IVs

- Additional License/Certification/Education required
Completed by: Ceri Gunn Date: July 10, 2015