

Victoria General - 4th Floor and 10 South - Pain Management Unit and Block Room

Outpatient Service Profile

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

Service: Pain Management Unit (PMU 4th Floor Dickson) & Block Room (10 south VG site)

Community Served: Nova Scotians with chronic pain

Patient Care

Patient Population: Patients with chronic pain (pain lasting greater than six months) may be referred to the Pain Management Unit and/or Block Room.

Average Patient Age Range: Adult

Skills Required: Clinic: patient teaching, patient assessment, telephone support for patients, TENS instruction, ability to work effectively with an interdisciplinary team, assist physician with procedures; Block Room: set up and assist physicians with procedures in Block Room, must be able to work independently and tolerate long periods of standing while wearing a lead apron.

Additional Responsibilities: The expectation is that the RN staff will be able to work in both the PMU and the Block Room.

Experience Considered an Asset: Crisis Intervention, Psychiatry, OR experience, previous experience with chronic pain

Systems

Medication System: Traditional plus Iontophoresis (under review)

Model of Care: Interdisciplinary team; 1-2 RNs in clinic/ 1 Anesthesia Technician or casual RN in Block Room

Size of Caseload: PMU 10-20 cases/day/Block Room 8-10 cases/day

Physician Coverage: On Site

Multidisciplinary Team Members Include: Anesthesiologists, Psychiatrist, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Psychologist, Nurse Practitioner, Vocation Counselor, Family Physicians, Psychiatrist, RNs

Service Hours: M-F in both PMU & Block Room. 0800-1600 (PMU) & 0700-1500 or 0730-1530 in Block Room. Block Room may run as long as 10 hours depending on caseload.

Length of Shift: 8 hours in clinic; can be 10 hour days in Block Room, at times.