

Victoria General - 6A - Thoracic Surgery and IMCU

Inpatient Service Profile

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

Service: Thoracic Surgery and IMCU

Site: VG **Unit:** 6A

Number of Beds: 20 Thoracic including a 4 bed IMCU

Patient Care

Patient Population: Thoracic surgical procedures for diseases of the lung and esophagus, including an extensive cancer component, trauma to the chest and abdomen. Patients requiring advanced nursing competencies and IMCU, thoracic oncology patient waiting for radiotherapy and chemotherapy.

Length of stay is 6-8 days. IMCU may include Gen Surg, Urology, ENT and Med.

Average Patient Age Range: From 40-80 years. In recent years there has been a trend toward younger population. The male/female mix is 60% male to 40% female.

Skills Required: BLS-C certification. ACLS is an asset as nursing staff participate on the Code Blue team. Airway management an asset. Good basic nursing knowledge, surgical nursing, patient teaching

advanced nursing knowledge and skills for IMCU, strong leadership skills, independent decision making including collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, certification of shared competencies and specific DMFs ie "site care and monitoring of arterial lines, accessing and flushing of central lines, central venous pressure monitoring, initiating I/Vs, blood sampling, neuraxial analgesia, PCA, and I/V push medications, Thoracic irrigation and packing. Monitoring post pleurodesis.

Additional Responsibilities: 6A Nursing staff participate on the Code Blue Team, work in IMCU independently, charge duties on a rotating basis utilizing cost effective decision making, daily staffing, assignment flexibility, co-ordinating discharge plans and interacting with oncology patients and their families receptorship to students, new staff and other learners.

Experience Considered an Asset: Thoracic surgery experience, surgical, IMCU, critical care, strong multi system assessment skills, oncology nursing, nursing requiring multi-faceted advanced skills ie, central triple lines, cardiac monitoring, neuraxial analgesia, and PCA. Airway management.

Systems

Medication System: Traditional ____ Unit Dose __x__ Other ____

Nursing Model of Care: Patient Centered Care

Staff Mix: RN 95 % LPN 5 % PSW ____%

Length of Shift: 8hr ____ 12hr x Other ____

Scheduling: Manager x Self x

Average Number of Staff per shift:

M T W T F S S

7-3 6 6 6 6 6 6

3-7 6 6 6 6 6 6

7-11 5 5 5 5 5 5

11-7 5 5 5 5 5 5

These numbers would fluctuate during bed closures.

Delivery System: Total patient care with a charge nurse Mon - Fri 07-15.

Nurse: Patient Ratio: 6A FLOOR IMCU

7-3 4 pts/staff member 2 pts (RN)

3-7 4-5 pts/staff member 2-3 pts (RN)

7-11 5-6 pts/staff member 2-3 pts (RN)

11-7 5-6 pts/staff member 2-3 pts (RN)