

**Victoria General - 7A - Palliative Care  
Capital Health Inpatient Service Profile**

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

**Service:** Capital Health Integrated Palliative Care Service

**Site:** VG      **Unit:** 7A

**Number of Beds:** 10

**Patient Care**

**Patient Population:** 7A inpatient unit is one of the components of the Capital Health Integrated Palliative Care Service. Patients on 7A at the VG site have a terminal illness and require pain/symptom management, psychosocial, spiritual, physical support with access to community support and follow up.

**Palliative Care includes:** Expert medical care to help with pain and other symptoms. Assisting with decisions about treatments. Social, psychological, emotional and spiritual support. Occupational therapy and physiotherapy support. Support for family caregivers. Arranging for respite care to give at home caregivers a break. Trained volunteers to visit with patients and give emotional support both in hospital and in the community. Information about financial, legal and other services. Counseling to help to adjust to change and loss. Telephone counseling in crisis situations. End of life care. Ongoing grief and bereavement support after the death of a loved one. Support and education of the professional caregiver. Research.

**Average Patient Age Range:** 55-70 years (wide average)

**Skills Required:** Assessment (physical, family, spiritual). And interview, planning, collaborator with patient/family, multiple teams: Genograms; CADD pumps, syringe drivers: Intrathecal management, sub q medication management, ostomy care, wound care: Therapeutic communication skills in emotionally charged atmosphere. Additional

**Experience Considered an Asset:** Inpatient medical/surgical a must. Oncology experience preferred in addition. Interdisciplinary team work: Psychosocial experience, previous experience working with terminally ill patients. Desire to learn more about easing distress of end of life patients and families

**Systems**

**Medication System:** Traditional \_\_\_\_ Unit Dose x Other \_\_\_\_

**Nursing Model of Care:** Primary Nursing x Team Nursing \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_  
Total Patient Care x Modified Total Patient Care \_\_\_\_

**Staff Mix:** RN 90 % LPN 10 % PSW 0 %

**Average Number of Staff per shift:**

Days: RN 3 LPN 1 PSW \_\_\_\_  
Evenings: RN 3 LPN 0 PSW \_\_\_\_  
Nights: RN 3 LPN 0 PSW \_\_\_\_

**Length of Shift:** 8hr \_\_\_\_ 12hr x Other \_\_\_\_

**Scheduling:** Manager \_\_\_\_ Self x \_\_\_\_

**Physician Coverage:** Resident on Call x Family Physician/Hospitalist \_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Multidisciplinary Services:** OT/PT/Music Therapist/  
Social Worker/Bereavement Coordinator Volunteer Corrdinator Spiritual Care  
Coordinator. In House consultant and Home consultant services provided through the  
program and work collectively with Unit staff on appropriate admissions and transfers to  
the unit.