



Unit Name Hematology Clinic

Unit Location 4 South Victoria Building, VG Site

Program Cancer Care and Treatment

Nova Scotia Health Authority Outpatient Service Profile

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

<u>General Information</u>	
Service	Division of Hematology, Cancer Care Program
Site	4 South Victoria Building, VG Site
Brief description of the Unit	Care and management of patients with malignant (cancer) or benign hematological diagnosis, bleeding disorder, or diagnosis of pulmonary embolus/deep vein thrombosis. Procedures such as bone marrow biopsies are performed for diagnosis, fat pad aspirate, and line removals.
Unit Orientation	Orientation is a minimum of 1 month, depending on knowledge and skills of RN. Minimum 2 years Hematology/Oncology experience (consideration may be given to RN with minimum of 1 year experience and oncology focus during their formal studies).
Number of Beds	14 Exam Rooms, between 40-100 patients/day.

Patient Care

Patient Population	Not yet diagnosed, newly diagnosed or follow up patients with malignant (cancer) or benign hematological diagnosis, hereditary bleeding disorders, or blood clots. Diagnostic procedures, such as bone marrow biopsies, performed and patients recovered in clinic. Assessments, patient education, care coordination and symptom management (including telephone care). *See RN responsibilities below.
Average Patient Age Range	16-90s.
Nursing Model of Care	Primary Nursing: _____ Team Nursing: _____ Other: <u>X</u> Total Patient Care: _____ Modified Total Patient Care: _____ Other: Primary RN or RN/LPN and Dr Teams. RNs and LPNs manage caseload of patients on active treatment/follow up.

Systems

Medication System	Traditional: <u>X</u> Unit Dosage: _____ Other: _____ Other:
Scheduling	Manager: <u>X</u> Self: _____
Average Number of Staff per Shift	Days: RN <u>6-8</u> LPN <u>2</u> CTA _____ Evenings: RN _____ LPN _____ CTA _____ Nights: RN _____ LPN _____ CTA _____
Service Hours	Monday- Friday 0800-1630 hrs (no holidays or weekends).
Length of Shift	8hr: <u>X</u> 12 hr: _____ Other: _____ Other:

Staff

Staff Mix	RN: <u>70</u> % LPN: <u>30</u> % CTA: <u> </u> %
Physician Coverage	On Call: <u> </u> On Site: <u> X </u> N/A: <u> </u> Other: <u> </u>
Multidisciplinary Team Members	Physicians, Hematology Fellows/Medical Students, Nurse Practitioner, Blood & Marrow Transplant RN Coordinators, Clinical Trials RNs, Clerical, Unit Aide, Social Work, Pharmacy.

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**

Malignant Hematology (Cancer): Assessment (newly diagnosed through to palliative care), psychosocial support, teaching, care coordination, symptom management, telephone care (monitoring of blood work and symptoms for patients at home, identification and management of oncologic emergencies). Assist with procedures, such as bone marrow biopsies; and management of specimens collected.

Benign Hematology: Same as above but for benign hematological diagnoses.

Bleeding Disorder: Triage consults. Assessment, psychosocial support, teaching, care coordination, symptom management, telephone care (monitoring of blood work and symptoms for patients on home treatment). Care coordination of patients requiring surgery; teaching staff on inpatient units regarding care of the patient with a bleeding disorder.

Anticoagulation Clinic: Triage consults (often urgent due to need for surgery or newly diagnosed blood clot requiring management).

Assessment, psychosocial support, teaching, care coordination, symptom management, telephone care (monitoring of blood work and symptoms for patients on home treatment). Care coordination of patients requiring surgery.

- Skills Required**

Strong assessment, communication and patient education skills. Excellent time management, organization and critical thinking. Ability to work closely with physician colleagues. Ability to work well in a team and independently.

	Subcutaneous injections, Care of Central Venous Access Devices an asset.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Responsibilities 	Patients can present to clinic very ill and requiring admission (nature of malignant hematology patients on active treatment is that condition can change rapidly). Ability to assist with transfer from wheelchair or stretcher.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional License/Certification/Education required 	CNA Oncology Certification an asset. Chemotherapy Administration experience an asset.

Completed by: Joy Tarasuk

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