

Medicine Special Care

Overview of the unit – basic description:

The 18th floor is a Med-Surg unit with varied diagnoses to include medicine, renal, respiratory, GI, infectious diseases and wound management. Nursing services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The Clinical Director, Patient care coordinator, Operations coordinator, case managers, Administrative Associates, Nursing Assistants, Registered Nurses and LPN's support the patients on this unit.

Patient Population Profile:

Patients are culturally diverse and include young adults, middle age and elderly.

of Beds: 52. Our ADC is 35

Equipment Used:

Transport Monitor, Code Cart, IVAC's, Dynamaps, Alaris infusion pumps, PD cyclor, and defibrillator

Diagnostic & Treatment Modalities:

We are one of the only units that do peritoneal dialysis and we provide care to the renal, medicine and surgery populations. Bronchoscopies and liver, kidney biopsies are occasionally performed at the bedside. We have patients that have trachs, NGTubes, chest tubes, drainage tubes, Vac system.

Acuity Variables:

Peritoneal Dialysis, High numbers of completely dependent patients/and or unstable pts. will impact our acuity. We adjust our staffing when our acuity changes.

Medications Rendered:

We give those medications according to the guideline for IV administration of medications. We give blood products but we do not give chemotherapy.

Support/Structure of the Unit:

One central Nurses' Station supports the functioning of the unit. An Administrative Associate on 7am-3pm and 3pm-11pm shifts operates the Nurses' Station. Satellite Pharmacy on 17NT lends pharmacy support. Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists see pts. directly on the unit. We also have an assigned Registered Dietician.

Key Responsibilities: The Registered Nurse plays a key role during the patients stay. He/She is the one who assesses, plans, implements and evaluates the patient care during their stay. The RN takes on the role as the person who manages and assists in providing the patients care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They must have good clinical and excellent communication skills. Customer service is very important as is patient satisfaction. You must have the ability to function in emergency situations and non-routine situations.

Shift(s): 12-hour shifts. Nurse's work every 3rd weekend when elect to do 12 hour shifts, but when working 8 hours you are required to work every other weekend.

Rotation Schedule: Days / Nights or permanent Night shift.

Qualifications / Experience Necessary: Graduate from an accredited School of Nursing.

Misc: Why is this the best unit in the hospital to work?

The one thing that makes us truly unique is the people that work on this unit. You never feel as though you are alone and each of us are here to help you be successful. We take pride in what we do. Our staff and patients are culturally diverse and because med surg is a challenging environment you will get a great learning experience. We do not have telemetry. We strive for an environment that fosters teamwork while understanding that each person plays a key role in providing patient care.