

**KING FAISAL SPECIALIST HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE
NURSING AFFAIRS**

**Scope of Service
NEUROSURGERY, RADIATION THERAPY (C-1)**

PATIENT CARE UNIT:

Scope of Service:

Services covered in this unit include 36 beds which belong to Neurosurgical and Radiation Therapy. In addition, the unit has 5 beds assigned to the Epilepsy Monitoring Unit.

C-1 provides nursing care primarily to adult and pediatric patient (see Criteria for Admission) with malignant and/or congenitally related diseases who require complex diagnostic work-up, major complex surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and treatment follow-up.

The Unit also provides clinical rotation to Nursing Interns, Graduates and Students.

Frequent Procedures/Services/Functions:

A. Management and care of adult and pediatric patients with Neurosurgical conditions:

1. Brain Tumors
2. Spinal Surgeries
3. Arterial Venous Malformation
4. Aneurysms
5. Epilepsy
6. Spina Bifida

B. Management and care of adult and pediatric patients with Epilepsy

C. Management and care of adult patients requiring Radiation Therapy, staging workup and administration of chemotherapy

D. Central line management

E. Continues and intermittent pain management (PCA, epidural and intrathecal)

Hours of operations:

24 hours daily, 7 days a week

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO THE SERVICE

The main criteria for admission into the Unit includes adult and pediatric patients (Age >1 year) presenting with the conditions stated above.

STAFFING PLAN

Number and Mix of Staff

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Staffing of C-1 shall be provided by registered nurses functioning in a total care nursing system. The Head Nurse has overall responsibility for the unit, and a Charge Nurse/Team Leader is designated for each shift and responsible for assessing patient acuity, enabling them to plan shift assignments for the incoming shift. This is based on the following criteria:

Shift assignments are made by the Charge Nurse/Team Leader and based on the following:

1. Complexity of patient's condition and required nursing care
2. Dynamics of patient's status, including the frequency with which the needs for specific nursing care activities changes
3. Complexity of assignments required by the patient
4. Type of technology employed in providing nursing care
5. Degree of supervision required by each nursing staff member based on her/his previously assessed level of competence

Method of adjusting to staffing variances:

When additional staff are required for the shift than have been scheduled, the staffing office is notified of the additional numbers of staff required. Staff are then temporarily reassigned from other areas or called in from home. If the Unit has an excess number of staff the staffing office is notified. These nurses are then utilized in other medical/surgical areas or rescheduled.

QUALIFICATIONS OF STAFF: Qualifications/Licenses/Certifications Required

Registered Nurses:

1. Saudi Registered Nurse License and registration from country of origin
2. Current BCLS
3. Two years recent acute care experience
4. Bilingual nurses who meet the criteria are encouraged

Ward Clerks:

1. Saudi national
2. English speaking
3. High school diploma required

Patient Care Assistants:

1. Saudi National

HOW ARE INSERVICES/CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS PROVIDED TO MAINTAIN STAFF COMPETENCY?

Continuing education is offered through NER and at the Unit level coordinated by the Head Nurse and Clinical Instructor. Education needs are identified through needs assessment tools, treatment protocols, performance improvement activities, regulatory agencies, new technology, new equipment, new products and individual input and surveys. Topics other than those which are based upon mandates and updated protocols, are also arranged. These may be issues of interest raised by the Unit staff, topics selected from the departments' needs assessment or information of interest or relevance from other departments.

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Also refer to Educational Plan.

Required Competencies:

1. Initial competencies – orientation checklist
2. Organization competencies – BCLS
3. Any new implemented process or procedure
4. Adult Physical Assessment
5. Pediatric Physical Assessment
6. Patient Controlled Analgesia
7. Epidural Administration
8. External Ventricular Drains
9. Lumbar Drains
10. Computer Use
11. IV cannulation
12. Procedural Sedation
13. Chemotherapy

Annual review of education includes:

- Point of Care Testing
- P.I.
- Age Specific
- Pre- Sedation
- Fire and Electrical Safety
- Infection Control
- Wound Care and Pressure Ulcer Prevention
- I.V Cannulation
- Medication Safety

METHOD OF COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS:

Internal and External Methods of Communication:

Internally and externally, communication is accomplished via direct verbal communication, telephone, fax, intranet and written memos. Staff meetings are held on a monthly basis, or more frequently if required. Collaborative practice meetings are scheduled on a quarterly basis or as required. The meetings for the other services are scheduled as required.

Describe Collaborative Relationships With Other Departments:

The Head Nurse and staff participate on many multidisciplinary committees, as well as on Hospital wide performance improvement groups and committees involving many other departments. Representatives from other departments are invited to attend staff meetings when new programs are introduced or if complicated issues arise, to facilitate a mutually desirable resolution.

DISCHARGE CRITERIA:

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Staff members liaise with other health disciplines to implement discharge planning which include the following:

1. Equipment
2. Transportation
3. Home care
4. Dietary needs
5. Social problems
6. Special teaching needs, i.e., tracheostomy, NGT/GT feeding
7. Therapy, e.g., radiation, chemotherapy
8. Access to additional care
9. Home supply
10. Medication