

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

**Scope of Service
CARDIAC HOLDING UNIT (CHU)**

PATIENT CARE UNIT

Unit Description	Cardiac Holding Unit (CHU)
Number of Beds	Five Rotational Open Bed Unit
Nurse Patient Ratio	1:2 - 1:3

Scope of Service

This five rotational open bed unit is a multi purpose unit that provides comprehensive nursing care for stable adult cardiac patients. These patients may require procedural sedation prior to a procedure, preparation for a procedure, or recovery from an elective day procedure. The most common provision of care will include the following:

- Adult patients pre/post coronary intervention who require conscious sedation
- Non-intubated adult patients requiring monitoring post deep sedation
- Pre op surgical patients requiring further assessment by an anesthesiologist.
- Stable patients for elective cardioversion
- Diagnostic work up (lab test, chest x-ray, ECG etc.) for pre-screening patients who may require admission to A4, CVT or stable elective admissions to CCU

The plan of care for patients undergoing procedural sedation will be done as outlined in the procedural sedation policy

Late admission patients awaiting bed assignments within the Heart Institute can be seen, assessed, and have certain procedures done in a timely manner or be booked for readmission.

If a patient from the CHU becomes unstable the nurse will notify the appropriate physician, (i.e. medical or surgical). Such patient may require admission to CCU, or returned to the CSICU or Cardiac Cath Lab.

Frequent Procedures/Services/Functions:

- Conscious sedation
- Use of the nursing process: assessment, planning, intervention, and evaluation
- Non invasive haemodynamic monitoring
- Continuous ECG monitoring and dysrrhythmia monitoring
- Continuous nursing assessments of patients' physical and emotional needs and corresponding therapeutic interventions
- Diagnostic procedures including 12-lead ECG analysis, chest X-ray, echocardiography, CVC line placement, lab work
- Oxygen therapy and pulse oxymetry
- Patient and family education
- Psychosocial and emotional support
- Infection control and safety management
- Trans-esophageal Echo (TEE)

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- Elective Cardioversion
- Femoral venous/arterial sheath removal

Hours of Operation

12 hours per day (07:00 – 19:30), 5 days a week, (Saturday to Wednesday).

CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO SERVICE

Stable adult cardiac patients requiring monitoring, pre/post coronary intervention as stipulated in the Conscious Sedation Policy, stable non intubated post general anesthesia for recovery after elective procedure and patients for cardiac diagnostic work up.

STAFFING PLAN

Number and Mix of Nursing Staff

Staffing of the Cardiac Holding Unit shall be provided by registered nurses functioning in a comprehensive nursing care system. An Acting Clinical Nurse Coordinator (ACNC) is designated for the shift. He/she shall be responsible for supervision and provision for continuity of care delivered by personnel. Continuity of care from admission to discharge is a major objective used. Additionally care is provided based on the following criteria

- Complexity of patient's condition and required nursing care.
- Dynamics of patient's status, including the type of procedure and the frequency with which the need for specific nursing care activities are performed.
- Complexity of assessment required by the patient.
- Type of technology employed in providing nursing care.
- Degree of supervision required by each nursing staff member based on her/his previously assessed level of competence.
- Availability of supervision appropriate to the assessed and current competence of nursing staff member.
- Relevant infection control and safety issues.
- Religious and cultural considerations.

Method of Adjusting to Staffing Variances

When additional staff is needed for the shift than has been scheduled, the Cardiology Nurse Manager or ACNC takes appropriate action. The Nurse Manager has 12-hour accountability for staffing the unit. During off duty hours however, the ACNC or designee notifies the nursing supervisor of the need for additional staff. Staff may also be pre-assigned or be called in from home for overtime.

Ward clerk and Patient Care Assistant from CCU or A4 is available as needed.

Staffing consideration is done within the Heart Institute using two CCU SN1 and one A4 SN1 until the requested MSR lines are approved.

QUALIFICATION OF NURSING STAFF

Qualifications/Licenses/Certifications Required of Staff

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- Experience in accordance with KFSH standard
- Registered Nurse License or registration from country of origin
- BLS **required**
- ACLS **required**
- BDIC **required**
- ADIC **preferred**
- Procedural Sedation **certified**

Competency is determined through written examination, clinical performance and review of documentation by the ACNC, Clinical or Education and Preceptor representative or the Nurse Manager. Educational needs are also identified through the performance improvement method and from self-report by peers.

Required Competencies done are as follows:

Annual check off on the following:

- Procedural Sedation
- Pacemaker management
- Transcutaneous Pacemaker
- ECG Interpretation
- Restraints
- Age specific population (**14 years and older**)
- Unit specific equipment
- Cardioversion/defibrillation
- Fire Safety/Infection Control
- Patients' rights and confidentiality
- Chest tube management
- Femoral venous/arterial sheath removal
- Emergency drug review
- Others (as needs are identified)

Education Programs to Maintain Staff Competency

Educational offerings are coordinated through the unit's Education/Preceptor and Clinical Committees representative, the ACNC, the Cardiovascular Education Coordinator and the Head Nurse. Educational offerings are made available through Skills Lab, case presentations and CQI results and direction. These meetings are mandatory.

Education is also provided in conjunction with staff meetings and bulletin board to update and assist staff clinically. Classes are offered to enhance knowledge and strengthen clinical expertise.

These classes include but are not limited to:

- BLS
- ACLS
- BDIC

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- ADIC
- Pacemaker workshop
- Adult Physical Assessment
- Chest tube management

Required Competencies in:

Annual check off on the following:

Restraints

Age Specific Population (14 years and older)

Fire Electrical Safety

Infection Control Prevention

Wound Care

- Others (as needs are identified)
- Cardioversion/defibrillation
- Fire Safety/Infection Control

Pacemaker management

Transcutaneous Pacemaker

Adult 12 Lead ECG Interpretation

Biannual check off on the following:

- ACLS
- BLS
- Point of Care Testing
- Emergency drug review
- Conscious sedation
- Mock Code **q3 monthly**

METHOD OF COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Internal and External Methods of Communication

The delivery of care in the CHU (despite operational hours) is provided utilizing a multidisciplinary approach. Ancillary departments are involved in the patients' care. These persons include dietitians, pharmacists, respiratory therapists, physical therapists, translators, social workers, environmental and communication committees, CVD PI coordinator, clinical and invasive/non-invasive laboratory. Communication and discussion of the patient's plan of care occur among nurses, physicians, and the ancillary team members as required. Consultation with other specialists and subsequent interventions are rendered as necessary.

Describe Collaborative Relationships with Other Departments

The four established unit committees are the Education and Preceptor, Clinical Practice, Communication, Environmental and Safety Committees. They are linked to a program and department wide committee structure of Shared Governance. Each staff in CHU is assigned to at least one of the committee to represent the area. The chair of each of these committees represents the unit at the program level with issues that affect patient care or clinical education. Meetings are held monthly and as needed.

MISSION OF DEPARTMENT

The primary mission of the Cardiovascular Nursing Program at KFSH&RC is to provide the people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia the highest quality tertiary and preventative care for

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all types of cardiovascular diseases in a co-coordinated and balanced program of clinical practice, education and research.

In partnership with our medical staff we are dedicated to excellence, compassion and integrity in caring for the whole person – mind, body and spirit. We are committed to the professional growth, development and accountability of our employees by creating, applying and disseminating evidence based practice through education and research.

GOALS OF DEPARTMENT

Our primary goals are in accordance with those established by the executive administration of KFSH&RC:

1. Improve access to care
2. Improve operational performance
3. Develop and Advance Nursing practice
4. Improve recruitment and retention
5. Participate in Medical Outreach and education and training of physicians, nurses and other care providers

PLAN TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF SERVICE

Ongoing data base information, evidence base practice, is incorporated into the unit's performance improvement program in order to continually analyze patient outcomes and maintain or improve quality. Ongoing projects include Cardiac Diet Assessment, Patient Education, and focus study on patient undergoing Cardiac Lab interventions.