

St. Joseph's Wayne Hospital is a 229-bed acute-care community hospital that provides comprehensive medical and surgical care, emergency, and diagnostic services to the residents of Wayne and communities in northern New Jersey.

Our care for patients and service to the community are guided by the Values of Dignity, Justice, Excellence and Stewardship. We administer the highest quality care through effective partnerships with physicians, religious leaders of all faiths, and community leaders.

CRITICAL CARE

There are presently two critical care units comprised of Intensive Care and Cardiac Care located on the 2nd floor. The nursing staff alternates between both units. The staffing ratio on average is 1:2 providing 14 hours of care to each patient daily. The staffing consists of Registered Nurses, Patient Care Assistants, and a Unit Secretary on the day shift.

The nurses in Critical Care take the lead in responding to medical emergencies throughout the building as respondents to cardiac arrest (Code Blue) and Rapid Response Calls. Nurses on these units are expected to complete the Critical Care Course and maintain certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). There are six nurses who have received national certification in Critical Care Nursing.

The units will be undergoing major construction to physically combine the space into one large unit. This will improve the patient bed flow, and modernize the facility with state-of-the-art equipment.

The nurses working in the Critical Care Units are focused on melding the art and science of nursing practice. Several nurses participate on the Ethics Committee and the Palliative Care Committee and have developed protocols to provide comfort to patients and their families during the end of life process.

MEDICAL - SURGICAL

Medical-Surgical, 4 East

This 36-bed unit is located on the 4th floor overlooking the picturesque hills of Northern New Jersey. The unit is staffed with Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Patient Care Assistants with a Unit Secretary on the day and evening shifts. There is a team approach to nursing care transitioning to relationship based care model under the guidance of a Nurse Manager. The staffing ratios are an average of 1:6 providing 7.5 hours of care to each patient daily. There are four nurses who have received national certification in Medical Surgical Nursing and one who has received national certification in Oncology Nursing.

Patients cared for on this unit include the geriatric and adult population with a variety of medical and surgical diagnoses. Oncology patients are also admitted to this unit as well for chemotherapy and supportive care. There is a Physical Therapy Gym located on this unit to facilitate the care and treatment of the patients.

Medical-Surgical, 5th Floor

This 36-bed unit is located on the 5th floor overlooking the picturesque hills of Northern New Jersey. The unit is staffed with Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Patient Care Assistants with a Unit Secretary on the day and evening shifts. There is a team approach to nursing care transitioning to relationship based care model under the guidance of a Nurse Manager. The staffing ratios are an average of 1:6 providing 7.5 hours of care to each patient daily. There are two nurses who have received national certification in Medical Surgical Nursing and several others seeking the certification. Nurses on this unit receive training for the care of pediatric and adolescent patients and certification in Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS).

The patients cared for on this unit widely vary in diagnosis, as well as age. The age groups cared for on this unit range from geriatric to adult, as well as three rooms dedicated to the care of pediatric and adolescent patients.

REHABILITATION

Welcome to the 20-bed Acute Rehabilitation Unit located on the 7th floor overlooking the picturesque hills of Northern New Jersey. The Acute Rehabilitation Unit is staffed with Registered Nurses, Rehabilitation Nursing Technicians, Unit Secretaries, Physical Therapists, Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, a Dietitian, and a Social Worker, under the guidance of a Physiologist and Physician Assistant. The collaborative care environment created by the interdisciplinary team has achieved the highest of patient satisfaction. Forty percent of the nursing staff on this unit holds national certification in Rehabilitation Nursing.

Patients admitted to this unit include those with neurological disorders such as closed brain injuries and cerebral vascular accidents (CVA), orthopedic disorders such as bilateral lower extremity joint replacements, and patients who require rehabilitation following cardiac

procedures.

Patients actively participate in the development of their individualized care plans based on their previous level of function, present level of function, and their goals for recovery.

PERIOPERATIVE

This 29-bed unit is located on the 4th floor overlooking the picturesque hills of Northern New Jersey. The unit is staffed with Registered Nurses, Patient Care Assistants, Monitor Technicians, with a Unit Secretary on the day and evening shifts. There is a team approach to nursing care transitioning to a relationship based care model under the guidance of a Nurse Manager. The nursing staff on this unit receives education for critical care nursing, as well as certification in Advanced Cardiac Life Support. The staffing ratio on this unit averages 1:5 providing 8.5 hours of care to each patient daily. Many of the nurses who start their career on the Telemetry Unit progress to work in the Critical Care Unit or Emergency Department.

Patients admitted to this unit include those with cardiac conditions, post-operative patients with a history of a cardiac condition, and those requiring an intermediate level of care. The most common diagnosis on this unit is congestive heart failure. The nursing team has implemented many interventions to improve the patient outcomes for this diagnosis and has developed written education materials and protocols to increase the patient's abilities to care for themselves after discharge.

EMERGENCY ROOM

The Emergency Department at St. Joseph's Wayne Hospital (SJWH) is the primary local care provider for the Wayne, NJ area, processing 50,000 patients per year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, regardless of a patient's ability to pay for services or insurance status.

SJWH's Emergency Department manages patients with numerous health issues from chronic conditions to the critically ill patient. SJWH's Emergency Department employs over 30 full-time registered nurses, as well as an additional 30 full-time employees serving as unit clerks, patient care associates, transporters and patient liaisons. Nurses focus on optimizing efficiency of patient care, while following ENA guidelines.

Nursing staffing levels are maintained through the use of full-time, part-time and per-diem personnel. Fluctuations in volume are managed by the use of flexible shifts and alternate start times.

Emergency Department nurses at St. Joseph's provide education to staff nurses in the Emergency Department, as well as other nursing units. Emergency Department sponsored house-wide courses include TNCC and ENPC.

Emergency Department specific classes include TNCC, ENPC, ED skills lab review and other in-services that may be required by the department. A schedule of required courses is published each year and instructors coordinated by the Emergency Department educator. Continuing Education Units are offered for the courses as well. Our nurses also take responsibility for coordinating course materials for each educational offering. The clinical ladder program is often used as a vehicle to encourage participation of the nursing staff in the provision of educational programs, as well as outreach programs.

Outreach programs are coordinated through the trauma division. Once a presentation is requested, the trauma coordinator identifies the emergency department nursing staff available to provide the program. Course materials are provided to the instructor and instructors are reimbursed for their time and expenses. There are many programs geared for school-age children, high school students and teenagers, parents, car seat safety, and seasonal type activities. Our nurses enjoy providing the programs to the community and are frequently cited in local newspapers for their efforts.