



November 12th, 2007

Dear CAPHC Colleagues,

Subject: Healthcare Provider Patient Ratios

CAPHC has recently received a request for information from our colleagues at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario regarding healthcare provider patient ratios.

In anticipation of future staffing shortages, the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) is proactively reviewing healthcare provider patient ratios to determine the optimum level of staffing for key clinical care areas. This information will be considered in tandem with the information recently requested by Ruth Lee from Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster Children's Hospital. Once the information has been received, a national teleconference will be organized for those interested to discuss the results of the survey.

As CAPHC's liaison, I would greatly appreciate if you could share the questions outlined below with your respective nursing representatives for completion by November 22nd, 2007. Responses, feedback and questions should be sent directly to Megan Ashlee Serin, Master's of Health Administration Resident at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario at mserin@cheo.on.ca

As we have done in the past, your collective responses (without any identifiers) will be posted on the CAPHC web site www.caphc.org so we may share your experiences and recommendations with all our paediatric colleagues.

CAPHC is pleased to facilitate this request, and as always, your participation is most appreciated!

Kind regards,

Eva Szczerba
Associate Director
Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres (CAPHC)

Healthcare Provider Patient Ratios Survey (CHEO- November 2007)

1. What is your facility's Nurse to Patient ratio in the following inpatient paediatric care or ill infant areas?

Note – Please identify the total number of RPN/LPN responsible to assume a patient assignment.

I. Medicine

Total # Beds	Total # Staffed Beds	Shift	Total # of Registered Nurse(s)	Total # of Registered Practical Nurse(s) /Licensed Practical Nurse(s)	Total # Unregulated Health Care Providers
		Days			
		Evenings			
		Nights			
Comments:					

II. Surgery

Total # Beds	Total # Staffed Beds	Shift	Total # of Registered Nurse(s)	Total # of Registered Practical Nurse(s) /Licensed Practical Nurse(s)	Total # Unregulated Health Care Providers
		Days			
		Evenings			
		Nights			
Comments:					

III. Blended Unit (i.e. Medicine/Surgery and/or other)

Total # Beds	Total # Staffed Beds	Shift	Total # of Registered Nurse(s)	Total # of Registered Practical Nurse(s) /Licensed Practical Nurse(s)	Total # Unregulated Health Care Providers
		Days			
		Evenings			
		Nights			
Comments:					

IV. PICU

Total # Beds	Total # Staffed Beds	Shift	Total # of Registered Nurse(s)	Total # of Registered Practical Nurse(s) /Licensed Practical Nurse(s)	Total # Unregulated Health Care Providers
		Days			
		Evenings			
		Nights			

Comments:

V. NICU

Total # Beds	Total # Staffed Beds	Shift	Total # of Registered Nurse(s)	Total # of Registered Practical Nurse(s) /Licensed Practical Nurse(s)	Total # Unregulated Health Care Providers
		Days			
		Evenings			
		Nights			
Comments:					

VI. Mental Health

Total # Beds	Total # Staffed Beds	Shift	Total # of Registered Nurse(s)	Total # of Registered Practical Nurse(s) /Licensed Practical Nurse(s)	Total # Unregulated Health Care Providers
		Days			
		Evenings			
		Nights			
Comments:					

VII. Other Paediatric/Infant Unit Type

Total # Beds	Total # Staffed Beds	Shift	Total # of Registered Nurse(s)	Total # of Registered Practical Nurse(s) /Licensed Practical Nurse(s)	Total # Unregulated Health Care Providers
		Days			
		Evenings			
		Nights			
Comments:					

2. Does your nurse to patient ratio change given the experience level of the nurses on a particular shift. Yes No

Comments:

3. What is the predominant nursing care delivery model used in your organization (e.g. Team nursing, Primary nursing, etc.)? _____

4. If you have RPN/LPN's as part of your staff mix, do you have written guidelines and/or decision tree to guide the decision making process r/t patient assignments?

Yes No

5. Does your facility staff an aligned Nurse Educator (responsible for the continuous education of the staff) in the following inpatient care areas? If so, please indicate the total full time equivalent(s) (FTE).

Clinical Area	Shift			Total Full-time Equivalent(s)
	Day	Evening	Night	
Medicine				
Surgery				
Blended Unit				
PICU				
NICU				
Mental Health				
Other Paediatric/Infant Unit Type				

6. Does your facility staff an aligned Advanced Practice Nurses (responsible for policy development, education and research) in the following inpatient care areas? If so, please indicate the total FTE.

Clinical Area	Shift			Total Full-time Equivalent(s)
	Day	Evening	Night	
Medicine				
Surgery				
Blended Unit				
PICU				
NICU				
Mental Health				
Other Paediatric/Infant Unit Type				

7. Does your facility staff any Clinical Leaders or Charge Nurses without patient assignments in the following inpatient care areas? If so, please indicate the total FTE.

Clinical Area	Total Full-time Equivalent(s)
Medicine	
Surgery	
Blended Unit	
PICU	
NICU	
Mental Health	
Other Paediatric/Infant Unit Type	

8. Are there additional innovative infrastructure components that support the nursing care delivery model for patient care within the following inpatient care areas:

Clinical Area	Additional Infrastructure Supports
Medicine	
Surgery	
Blended Unit	
PICU	
NICU	
Mental Health	
Other Paediatric/Infant Unit Type	

9. Please indicate additional staffing strategies (if any apply) used during periods of high patient volumes in the inpatient areas i.e. RSV season:

10. Please indicate additional staffing strategies (if any apply) used during periods of low patient volumes in the inpatient areas i.e. summer:

11. Are you interested in participating in a teleconference to discuss the results of the survey:

No Yes If yes – please provide your phone/email contact information.
