

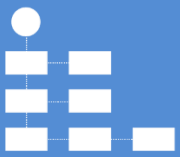


General Chronic Care

Chronic Care provides specialized care to individuals who have long-term, complex medical conditions or disabilities that require medical intervention, skilled care, and access to resources not available in the community or personal care home.

 <p>Patient Population</p>	<p>Individuals 18 years and older are eligible for Chronic Care.</p> <p>Inclusion criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals with clear primary diagnoses and established comorbidities.• Individuals with medical needs that can be managed with twice weekly physician rounding and twice weekly lab work.• Individuals with nursing resource intensive care needs.• Individuals with significant functional impairment requiring three or more persons to assist with mobility tasks and activities of daily living.• Individuals with bariatric care needs. <p>Exclusion criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individuals that require more than hourly rounding by nursing staff.• Individuals requiring a locked/secure unit.• Individuals that require extensive rehabilitation.
 <p>Length of Stay</p>	<p>Length of stay for Chronic Care varies by diagnosis, degree of impairment and individual need. Most individuals remain in Chronic Care for the long-term while others may return to the community or move to a personal care home. The average length of stay on Chronic Care is 2.9 years.</p>
 <p>Procedures for Patient Pathway Transfers</p>	<p>Admissions to Chronic Care occur via the Standard Operating Procedures for patient pathways into the Long Term Care Program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• LTC 2 Community (without Navigator) to LTC• LTC 3 Inpatient Units to LTC• LTC 5 Community (with Navigator) to LTC



Staffing and Physician Coverage

The interprofessional Chronic Care team includes:

- An attending physician who rounds twice per week.
- On-call HMO 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- RN/LPN and HCA support 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The total hours per patient day varies from 5.28 to 5.63 depending on the unit.
- Allied Health professionals including Clinical Dietitians, Occupational Therapists, Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, Recreation Facilitators, Respiratory Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists, Spiritual Care Providers, and Social Workers.



Available Resources

The following supports and services are available:

- Laboratory, x-ray, and EKG are available on a limited basis
- Oxygen therapy including high flow rates, lung volume recruitment, cough assist and non-invasive ventilation (BiPAP, CPAP)
- Tracheostomy and laryngectomy care
- Complex wound care
- Complex ostomy care
- Medication, fluids and/or blood products requiring administration by infusion pump, parenteral intravenous and/or central venous access device
- Enteral feeding and total parenteral nutrition (TPN)
- Nephrostomy care
- Continuous bladder irrigation related to urinary/suprapubic catheter care
- Peritoneal dialysis



Location of Services

122 General Chronic Care beds are located at Deer Lodge Centre on Lodge 5, Lodge 6, and Lodge 7. Accommodations are varied with both shared rooms (2 and 3-bed rooms) and private rooms. A limited number of rooms are reserved for individuals with bariatric care needs.



Consult and Admission Overview

WRHA Long Term Care Access Centre assists clients and families with navigation, assessment, and access to long term care, including Chronic Care. When needed, a pre-panel consultation with the Chronic Care team will occur to ensure appropriate resources are available and an individual's care needs can be met on a General Chronic Care unit.

