**Nurse Practitioner**

**Position Description**

**Summary**

Reporting to the Director of Health Services and the Medical Director of the Osteoporosis Clinic, the Nurse Practitioner provides specialized health care service, as a member of a collaborative practice team, to the population requiring focused health and illness care, in this case, the fracture population at Hospital X. The nurse practitioner is licensed in a class pursuant to the regulations of the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia and practices within the context of an approved collaborative practice agreement.

The practice of the nurse practitioner includes the provision of specialized health services, which include health promotion, illness and injury prevention, coordination and management of acute and emergent health problems and education and advocacy relevant to the patient population. The nurse practitioner is accountable to the Vice President Professional Practice/Chief Nursing Officer for matters relating to professional nursing practice, ethical conduct and compliance with standards.

**Major Responsibilities**

**Management of Health of the Fracture Patient**

Assesses, diagnoses, manages and evaluates health/illness concerns related to any underlying osteoporosis of the patients within the context of the patient’s experience and determinants of health.

* Demonstrates advanced knowledge and synthesis of advanced nursing practice within a clinical specialty.
* Performs advanced health assessment and clinical decision making within a clinical specialty for the purpose of making a diagnosis or assessing the effectiveness of treatment.
* Orders and interprets relevant screening and diagnostic tests according to predetermined protocol e.g. Blood work, X-rays, and bone mineral density.
* Selects, recommends and prescribes effective osteoporosis drugs and interventions according to predetermined protocol.
* Communicates the results of the bone mineral density testing, the comprehensive fracture risk assessment and the treatment which has been initiated for the patients. Transfers the care of the patient’s osteoporosis to the primary care provider once predetermined protocol has been completed.
* Where appropriate, initiates referrals and coordinates care with other health care providers and community agencies.
* Provides counselling and education.
* Monitors and documents clients’ adherence with recommended treatment.

**Specific Populations and Type of Patient the Nurse Practitioner will follow:**

The Nurse Practitioner will assess, treat, manage and follow the fracture population including wrist and shoulder; spine; and hip fracture patient identification.

**Non Clinical Aspects**

* Improvement in adherence to existing “best practices”
* Outcome tracking
* Education of patients and family.
* Providing con**s**ultation to nursing staff, managers, physicians, and other members of the multidisciplinary team regarding clinical and professional practice issues
* Shares expertise and provides consultation beyond the boundaries of the unit in areas of specialization