



CTSU – UNC Hospitals

Cardiothoracic Step-down

Center for Heart and Vascular Care



Cardiac
Surgery



Thoracic
Surgery

Compassion

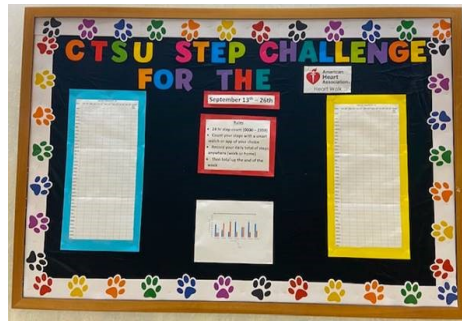


Leadership



Quality

Vascular
Surgery

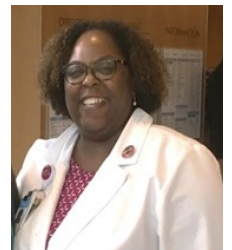


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CTSUN—UNC Hospitals

Cardiothoracic Step-down Unit

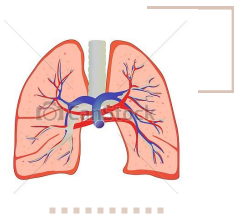
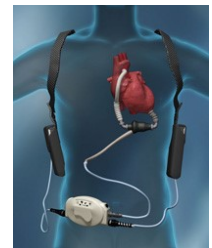
We are a 13 bed Cardiothoracic Step-down Unit (CTSUN) that specializes in the care of post-surgical cardiac, thoracic and vascular patients. The nurse to patient ration is 1:3.

Using a multi-disciplinary approach we care for patients that have undergone CABG, heart valve repair/replacement, VAD placement, heart/lung transplant, aortic/thoracic aneurysm repair, and vascular surgeries.

Cardiac Surgery



CTSUN nursing staff care for patients who have undergone various types of surgical intervention for heart related conditions. These range from coronary artery bypass graft (CABG), ventricular assist device (VAD) placement, and heart transplant. This also includes less invasive procedures such as ablation, and transthoracic aortic valve replacement (TAVR).

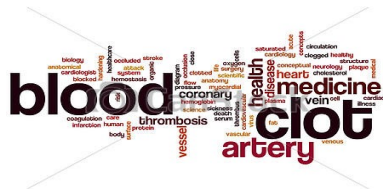


Thoracic surgery patients have often undergone wedge resections, lobectomy and pneumonectomy via video assisted thoracotomy (VATS) or open thoracotomy. We also care for patients that are post-transplant, and post-esophageal repair. Our nursing care is instrumental in patient outcomes. Aggressive pulmonary hygiene allows thoracic surgery patients to experience less morbidities and discharge as expected or earlier.

Thoracic Surgery



Vascular Surgery



Vascular patients range from those receiving thrombolytic therapy for deep vein thrombosis, limb amputation, carotid endarterectomy, and vascular bypasses. Close neurovascular monitoring contributes to patients' successful recovery.

Anyone you encounter on CTSUN has one major thing in common...heart. Each and every person has the passion and commitment to provide the best possible care and compassion for patients and their family members. Assisting patients and family members through the trials of life-changing surgery is an area in which our staff excels. Our staff are wonderful advocates and provide excellent care in end of life situations.



Sincerity

Teamwork is a priority on CTSUN. Everyone from housekeeping to physicians work together to provide seamless and exceptional care to not only patients, but their families by working to meet their physical, mental, and emotional needs. Physicians, pharmacists, respiratory therapy, case managers, transplant coordinators, and administrators respect and value nursing staff. Nurses play an integral role in the interdisciplinary team and are involved in all aspects of the patient's care.

Collaboration



Awards

- 2021 No Catheter Associated UTIs in 1 year
- FY21 Quality Award for participation in ERAS
- FY20 Carolina Care Award, Top Performing H&V unit for HCAHPS Mean Score
- 2020 North Carolina Great 100 Nurse
- 2020 No Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI) in over 2 years
- 2020 No Hospital Acquired Pneumonias in over 500 days
- 2017 Exceeded National Mean for NDNQI Staff Satisfaction Survey
- 2015 Tier 1 for Workforce Engagement

Recognition