Information for families and loved ones of patients in the CVICU at Toronto General Hospital

Read this pamphlet to learn more about:

- What the Progressive Care Team does
- How you can get involved
- Who to contact
Has your relative been in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU) for more than 1 week?

Meet our Progressive Care Team!

What does the Progressive Care Team do?

We believe in **patients and families as partners in care**. This means empowering patients and families with increased access to information, and involving them in clinical discussions and the decision making process whenever possible.

The Progressive Care Team helps to:

- Make sure there is regular communication between family members and the healthcare team.
- Build ongoing relationships between patients and families.

We know that having a loved one in the ICU is a stressful experience. Other CVICU families have told us that getting regular updates about a patient’s progress and giving families a voice in care planning can help reduce this stress.

The Progressive Care Team will connect families of our longer stay patients with a Primary Nurse:

- Your Primary Care Nurse will help you better understand what is happening with your loved one.
- It is hoped that you will feel supported to ask questions and communicate with the team, and to help plan the best possible care for your loved one.
Who is on the Progressive Care Team?

The Progressive Care Team is a team of health care professionals who help take care of your relative while they are in the CVICU. This includes:

- Registered Nurses
- Doctors
- Pharmacists
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Respiratory Therapists
- Patient Care Coordinator
- Dietitians
- Social Workers
- Speech Language Pathologists
- Patient Care Assistants
- Spiritual Care — and you

Taking part in Progressive Care Team Rounds

Every Tuesday at 2:00 pm, the Progressive Care Team meets for “Rounds”, which is a regular meeting where the team talks about your family member’s health status and ongoing plan of care.

You know your family member best and the team values your input. You can take part in rounds and listen to the team discussion, ask questions, and give your input based on what you know your family member would want the team to know.
How can I get involved with the Progressive Care Team?

Step 1.

Tell your family member’s nurse you are interested in the Progressive Care Team. They will put you in touch with a nurse from the team. You can also contact our Patient Care Coordinator at 416 340 3550.

Step 2.

Start talking about some of your questions or concerns with your family member’s nurse. Your nurse can give you more information and help identify some key questions or concerns to further talk about with the team.

It is your choice to take part in Progressive Care Rounds.

If you want to take part you can contribute as much or as little as you want to the conversation. If you do not want to take part, or you are not able to attend rounds, but have questions or concerns, discuss this with your nurse and they can speak with the team on your behalf.

We look forward to partnering with you to give your family member the best care possible.