EDDY VISITING NURSE & REHAB ASSOCIATION

Acceptance of Patients to Service

Policy:

Eddy VNRA's Policy related to Acceptance of Patients to Service can be accessed via the link on our website: <u>https://www.sphp.com/services/home-health-care/visiting-nurses</u>

Caseload/Volumes:

Eddy VNRA serves an eight-county region covering Albany, Columbia, Green, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren and Washington counties.

Most Recent Quarter: July to September 2024

Average Daily Census of Patients on Service: 1,206 patients

Total Visits: 34,897

Case Mix/Complexity of Patients Served:

Eddy VNRA serves patients with a variety of in-home healthcare needs, ranging from routine to complex. We subscribe to a national benchmarking service, Strategic Healthcare Programs. Below is a comparison of our case mix, representing complexity of patient needs, for the most recent 12-month period. Our average case mix is 6% higher than the New York State average and 13% higher than the national average.

Source: Strategic Healthcare Programs

Medicare Case Mix	
November 2023 – November 2024	
Eddy VNRA	1.182
NYS Comparison	1.120
National Comparison	1.050

Specialty Programs:

Eddy VNRA offers three specialty nursing programs:

Infusion Nursing Services: This program is accredited by CHAP, Community Health Accreditation Program. Eddy Visiting Nurse Association offers safe, high- quality infusion therapy to patients being treated for an infection, cardiac illness, pain, pneumonia, cancer, HIV/AIDS, cystic fibrosis, osteomyelitis, and a wide range of other diagnoses. Our IV therapy team provides care in conjunction with your physician/NP/PA and pharmacist.

<u>Palliative Care:</u> This program is accredited by CHAP, Community Health Accreditation Program. Our specially trained team provides extra support for patient with serious illness and their families.

<u>Wound Care:</u> Eddy VNRA employs nationally board-certified Wound, Ostomy, Continence nurses, who provide guidance, education and care to individuals with wounds, ostomies and incontinence based upon your physician's/NP/PA.

Staffing Levels:

The table below includes the number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) employed by Eddy VNRA for the timeframe listed below. A full-time equivalent is a unit of measurement that compares the hours worked by employees to the average number of hours worked by a full-time employee or student. It's used to standardize headcount and measure the total number of full-time employees in an organization.

Eddy VNRA Staffing Levels	
Time Period: January – June 2024; CMS Medicare 6-month Cost Report	
	# of full-time equivalents
Registered Nurses	77.49
Licensed Practical Nurses	6.79
Physical Therapists & PT Assistants	45.31
Occupational Therapists & OT Assistants	18.85
Speech Therapists	1.71
Registered Dietitians	1.12
Social Workers	3.81
Home Health Aides	15.09
Other (includes administrative, finance,	109.20
and support staff, etc.)	

Staffing Competencies:

Eddy VNRA evaluates competencies during the hiring process, orientation period, and ongoing through supervisory co-visits and a variety of staff development and competency assessment programs. Competencies are defined by discipline (RN, PT, HHA, etc.) and for our two accredited specialty programs: Infusion Nursing and Palliative Care. The competency of licensed clinicians is assessed by similarly licensed clinicians—for example, physical therapists evaluate physical therapists and social workers evaluate social workers. In addition, some clinicians complete national certification programs confirming their competency in an area of specialty, such as INS Certification for IV therapy, CWOCN Certification for Wound/Ostomy/Continence nursing, WCC (Wound Care Certification) and Palliative Care.

Frequency of Visits and Duration of Care

The frequency and duration of care provided by Eddy Visiting Nurse & Rehab Association is based upon an assessment of patient's needs and physician/NP/PA orders. Each patient's plan of care is developed individually.

Some patients may require only one in-home visit, for example, to teach about new medications or a new diagnosis. Other patients may require in-home visits over 4-6 weeks, starting with a higher frequency and gradually reducing visit frequency as the patient improves and as the patient/caregiver learn self-care. Occasionally, a patient may be on services longer, for example, related to a chronic

illness and need for treatments that can only be provided by a licensed clinician when a caregiver is not available to be taught.

Eddy VNRA provides care in accordance with physician/NP/PA orders, as well as in compliance with federal and state certified home health agency regulations and CHAP accreditation standards.

The patient's insurer may require prior approval of visits and may limit coverage. Patients may pay privately for uncovered services. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

Please contact our Intake Office at 518-270-1317 for additional information.

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