



ICU.8 Nursing staffing plans are available in the adult intensive care unit.

ICU.8.1 The nursing staffing plans demonstrate an evidence based nursing to patient ratio.

ICU.8.2 The nursing staffing plans are matching the patient volume and patient acuity.

Standard Intent:

Appropriate and adequate nursing staffing is critical to patient care in ICU. The planning process uses recognized methods for determining levels of staffing. The plan is written and identifies the number and types of required staff, the skills, the knowledge that must match the patient volume and patient acuity.

ICU.9 Nursing staff in the adult intensive care unit receive continuous training with competency assessment.

ICU.9.1 Nursing staff in the adult intensive care unit receive training and education on the following general and intensive care related needs:

ICU.9.1.1 Fundamental critical care support.

ICU.9.1.2 Infection control principles.

ICU.9.1.3 Blood transfusion.

ICU.9.1.4 Use of the defibrillator.

ICU.9.1.5 Care of patients with tracheostomies.

ICU.9.1.6 IV therapy.

ICU.9.1.7 Pressure ulcer prevention and care.

ICU.9.1.8 Knowledge of dosage range, side effects and complications of commonly used high alert medications in critical care including vasopressors, narcotics and controlled medications.

ICU.9.1.9 Recognizing critical ECG changes including arrhythmias.

ICU.9.1.10 Using pulse oximetry.

ICU.9.1.11 Assisting physician in placing central lines or arterial lines.

ICU.9.1.12 Assessing Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS).

ICU.9.1.13 Obtaining arterial blood gas samples.

ICU.9.1.14 Care of patients on ventilators.

ICU.9.1.15 Reading central venous pressure (CVP) and swan Ganz monitoring.

ICU.9.1.16 Care of endo-tracheal tube (ETT).

ICU.9.2 There is ongoing competency assessment for the nursing staff (e.g., written test, return demonstration).

ICU.9.3 The competency assessment of the nursing staff is documented.

Standard Intent:

To maintain acceptable ICU Nursing staff performance, to teach new skills, and to provide training on new medical technology and procedures, the hospital provides or arranges