

Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)

STANDARDS

- PICU.1** **Qualified physician is responsible for managing the pediatric intensive care unit.**
- PICU.1.1 The pediatric intensive care unit is directed by a physician qualified in pediatric critical care by education, training and, experience.
- PICU.1.2 The unit head takes the overall responsibility for the operation of the unit.
- PICU.2** **The pediatric intensive care unit nurse manager is a qualified registered nurse.**
- PICU.2.1 The nurse manager is a registered nurse qualified by education, training, and experience in pediatric critical care.
- PICU.2.2 The nurse manager develops and collaborates with other departments as needed for developing policies and procedures for the pediatric intensive care unit (e.g., policies and practices related to infection control).
- PICU.3** **Medical and nursing staff working in the pediatric intensive care unit have appropriate cardiac life support training.**
- PICU.3.1 Medical staff working in pediatric intensive care unit are certified in pediatric advanced life support (PALS).
- PICU.3.2 Nursing staff working in pediatric intensive care unit are certified in pediatric advanced life support (PALS).
- PICU.4** **The pediatric intensive care unit is covered by qualified physicians.**
- PICU.4.1 The pediatric intensive care unit is covered twenty four hours a day, seven days a week by qualified pediatric intensive care physicians.
- PICU.5** **The pediatric intensive care unit has admission and discharge criteria.**
- PICU.5.1 The pediatric intensive care unit identifies its own population based on age, weight, and diagnosis related groups.
- PICU.5.2 The admission and discharge criteria are defined in writing.
- PICU.5.3 The criteria for admission are based on physiological parameters.
- PICU.5.4 The criteria are developed collaboratively between relevant staff.
- PICU.5.5 In an open pediatric intensive care unit, the Most Responsible Physician (MRP) is the admitting consultant whereas in a closed pediatric intensive care unit setting, the MRP is a member of the medical staff in the PICU.