
Adult Intensive Care Unit Standard Intents

ICU.1 Qualified physician is responsible for managing the adult intensive care unit.

ICU.1.1 The adult intensive care unit is directed by a physician qualified in critical care medicine by education, training, and experience.

ICU.1.2 The unit head takes the overall responsibility for the operation of the unit.

Standard Intent:

The clinical care, patient outcomes, and overall management of the ICU require a person who is qualified in critical care by education, training and experience. The director takes the overall responsibility of the unit.

ICU.2 The adult intensive care unit nurse manager is a qualified registered nurse.

ICU.2.1 The nurse manager is a registered nurse qualified by education, training and, experience in managing critically-ill patients.

ICU.2.2 The nurse manager develops and collaborates with other departments as needed for developing policies and procedures for the unit (e.g., policies and practices related to infection control).

Standard Intent:

The clinical care, patient outcomes, and overall management of a hospital are only as good as the clinical and managerial activities of each individual department or service. Good departmental or service performance requires clear leadership from a qualified individual by education, training and experience.

ICU.3 The adult intensive care unit is covered by qualified medical and nursing staff.

ICU.3.1 The intensive care unit is covered by physicians qualified in managing critically ill patients twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

ICU.3.2 Medical staff working in the adult intensive care unit are certified in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS) and are trained on fundamental critical care support.

ICU.3.3 Nursing staff working in the adult intensive care unit are certified in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS).

Standard Intent:

There are qualified staff members (physician and nurses) in ICU to provide safe and effective care and treatment to patients in ICU all the times during the day. Education, background, experience, training, and/or certification must be consistent with the scope of services in ICU, the population served, with the needs of patients.

ICU.4 The adult intensive care unit has admission and discharge criteria.

ICU.4.1 The adult intensive care unit identifies its own population based on age and diagnosis related groups.

ICU.4.2 The admission and discharge criteria are defined in writing.

ICU.4.3 The criteria for admission are based on physiological parameters.