

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.