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

for facilities, educators, and time for ongoing in-service and other education for nursing staff in ICU. The hospital must ensure that nurses are qualified to provide nursing care for ICU patients through training and competency assessment at least on the procedures mentioned in substandard ICU 9.1.1 through 9.1.16. There is documentation of training and competencies assessment in staff file.

ICU.10 The adult intensive care unit has adequate equipment and supplies.

ICU.10.1 There are isolation rooms with at least one negative pressure room.

ICU.10.2 The following equipment are available:

ICU.10.2.1 Ventilators.

ICU.10.2.2 Suction apparatus.

ICU.10.2.3 Airway sets.

ICU.10.2.4 Crash cart that includes defibrillator and all emergency supplies and medications.

ICU.10.2.5 ECG monitor, pulse oximetry and vital signs monitoring devices.

ICU.10.2.6 Automated blood pressure monitoring machine.

ICU.10.2.7 Intravenous infusion and blood transfusion pumps.

ICU.10.2.8 Portable monitoring equipment for patient transfer.

ICU.10.3 The availability and functionality of all tools and equipment are checked daily.

ICU.10.4 Equipment are cleaned and disinfected daily and as needed.

ICU.10.5 Laboratory and imaging services are available to meet the needs of patients receiving intensive care.

Standard Intent:

Risks in clinical care processes are significantly reduced when appropriate and well-functioning equipment is used to provide the planned services. Adequate supplies and medications are also available and appropriate for planned use and emergent situations (substandard ICU.10.2.1 through ICU.10.2.8). Each organization understands the required or recommended equipment, supplies, laboratory and imaging services as well as the medications necessary to provide the planned services to its patient population. The equipment should have a process of daily checking to ensure availability and adequate functionality and should be disinfected regularly after and before use.

ICU.11 Policies and procedures are available to guide the work in the adult intensive care unit.

ICU.11.1 There are policies and procedures for medical and nursing initial assessment and re-assessment requirements, including time frames for completion of initial assessments and frequency of re-assessments.

ICU.11.2 There are policies and procedures for monitoring of patient circulation, respiration, and oxygenation.

ICU.11.3 There are evidence-based criteria for intubation, weaning off ventilator and extubating.