

Adult Intensive Care Unit (ICU)

STANDARDS

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.

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).

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).

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.
- ICU.4.4 The criteria are developed collaboratively between relevant staff.
- ICU.4.5 In an open ICU setting, the Most Responsible Physician (MRP) is the admitting consultant whereas in a closed ICU setting, the MRP is a member of the medical staff in the ICU.

ICU.5 The adult intensive care unit has an effective handover process.

- ICU.5.1 There is a documented evidence of handover between physicians at change of shift.
- ICU.5.2 There is a documented evidence of handover between nurses at change of shift.
- ICU.5.3 There is a documented evidence of handover between intensive care nurse and the unit/ward nurse at the time of transfer to a lower acuity of care.