


<b>SUBJECT:</b> ICU Patient Staffing Assignment – 1-1Nurse to Patient Ratio	
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## 1. POLICY

- 1.1. To identify patient acuity requiring continuous non-interrupted nursing care and an assignment ratio of one nurse to one patient (1:1).
- 1.2. A 1:1 assignment is made when a patient's nursing care needs require continuous nursing assessment resulting in ongoing documentation, monitoring, intervention, procedures, therapies and evaluation.

## 2. PROCEDURE


- 2.1. Established criteria will be used for determining patient's need for 1:1 monitoring.
- 2.2.
- 2.3. The patient's acuity will be updated every shift and as needed.

## 3. CRITERIA

### 3.1. PHYSIOLOGIC:

- 3.1.1. Unstable vital sign parameters for a period extending beyond two (2) hours.
- 3.1.2. The initiation of antithrombolytics, i.e. TPA
- 3.1.3. Titration of vasoactive drugs for extended periods at 5-15 minute intervals
- 3.1.4. Life-threatening arrhythmias
- 3.1.5. Uncontrolled intracranial hypertension

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- 3.1.6. Active bleeding or excessive fluid loss with a combination of constant lavage, vasopressors, VS every 5-15 minutes
- 3.1.7. Massive fluid resuscitation
- 3.1.8. Potential or actual respiratory failure with a combination of continuous physiotherapy, suctioning, pulmonary hygiene, acid-base assessment and ventilator changes
- 3.1.9. Continuous seizures
- 3.1.10. Combative patient posing a threat to self and/or others
- 3.1.11. SPECIAL PROCEDURES, THERAPIES OR TRANSPORTS
- 3.1.12. Transport to an off-unit procedure
- 3.1.13. Procedure(s) at bedside requiring assistance of nurse

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