

Subject: Recovery Room Staffing

POLICY

1. The Recovery Room shall be staffed with ACLS Certified nursing personnel for elective and urgent surgery.
2. The Recovery Room will be staffed Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm and 5pm to 12 midnight on call.in
3. After the Recovery Room has closed, surgical patients may be recovered
 - PACU by the on-call nurse if Anesthesia or second RN available.
 - ICU by the on-call nurse or an ICU nurse
4. Nurse patient staffing ratio will be as follows:

Classification I (1:1 nurse patient ratio)

1. a. At the time of admission until critical elements are met. Critical elements are met when report has been received from anesthesia and transfer of care has taken place, patient has a secure airway, initial assessment is complete and patient is hemodynamically stable.
 - b. unstable airway
 - c. any unconscious patient 8 years of age or under
 - d. a second nurse must be available to assist as necessary.

Classification II (1:2 nurse patient ratio)

1. Recovery phase until patient meets discharge criteria.

Classification III (1:3 nurse patient ratio)

1. Vital signs every 30 minutes.
2. Evaluation periodically.
3. Patient awaiting discharge or hospital admission.

References:

Perianesthesia Nursing Standards and Practice Recommendations, 2010-2012. American Society of Perianesthesia Nurses: Cherry Hill, New Jersey

REPLACES:	
DISTRIBUTION:	SURG MANUAL
APPROVED BY	DATE APPROVED
Administration	
Medical Executive Committee	06/27/12
Board	07/12/12
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