

**ACUITY CLASSIFICATION FOR
 SICU, MICU, BURN, PACU, ACD-PACU**

PURPOSE:

To establish a policy for scoring acuities in MICU, SICU, Burn, PACU, and ACD-PACU.

To establish a reproducible and reliable method of making patient assignments.

POLICY:

1. Utilization of the Therapeutic Intervention Scoring System – 28 (TISS 28)

The **MICU, PICU, SICU, Neuro ICU** and the **Burn Center** shall utilize the TISS 28 system.

System to delineate patient acuity scores. TISS acuity scores are utilized to determine classification and predicting staffing needs as follows:

| TISS Score | Class | Nurses Time |
|-------------------|--------------|--|
| 46 or greater | xxxxxx | Nurse/Patient Ratio (1:1) |
| 40-45 | A | Approximately 75% of nurses time during a shift is required to care for the patient |
| 20-39 | B | Approximately 50% of nurses time during a shift is required to care for the patient |
| 19 or less | C | Approximately 25% of nurses time during a shift is required to care for the patient |

2. The PACU and ACD-PACU shall use a classification system for recommended staffing ratios based on the following:

| Class | Nurse/Patient Ratio | Explanation |
|--------------|----------------------------|---|
| I | 1:3 | a. Patients are awake, stable and free of b. complications. c. Patients are over the age of 8 years. Patients are fully recovered and awaiting transport to the floor. |
| II | 1:2 | a. Two patients who are stable, conscious, and free of complications. b. Any two conscious, stable, uncomplicated pediatric patients with family support or staff present. c. One patient that is unconscious, stable, without artificial airway, and over the age of 8 years; and one patient that is conscious, stable and free of complications. |

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| III | 1:1 | At the time of admission to the PACU or for any patient requiring mechanical life support care and/or artificial airway. Any unconscious patient 8 years of age and under. A second nurse is available to assist as needed. |
| IV | 2:1 | One critically ill, unstable, complicated patient. |

Note: In the event there is only one patient in the PACU, at least 2 staff shall be present, one of whom shall be an RN.

3. Reviewing Acuity Classification

Acuity classification shall be reviewed each shift for each patient and utilized to assist in determining staffing needs.

| RESPONSIBLE PARTY | ACTION |
|---|--|
| RN, RN Applicant | 1. Completes TISS score according to the predicted needs for the patient during the next shift. |
| | 2. Records the TISS score on the assignment sheet and reports patient classifications to charge nurse. |
| Charge RN | 3. Uses TISS scores to predict staffing needs and as a tool for patient assignments. |
| Charge RN, RN, RN applicant, Administrative Coordinator | 4. Reports scores or patient ratios to Administrative House Manager as requested to assist in determining staffing needs. The Staffing Office initially calls for the nurse patient ratios. The manager or the charge nurse will call the Staffing Office if the status changes. |