

ADMISSION CRITERIA SETS FOR ACUTE HOSPITALIZATION

Indications for Hospitalization, Treatments, Discharge Screens

A. GENERAL: Indications for Hospitalization

Laboratory-blood

1. Serum sodium < 130 mEq/L or > 150 mEq/L
2. Serum potassium
Adult: < 3.0 mEq/L or > 6.0 mEq/L
Pediatric: < 2.5 mEq/L or > 5.5 mEq/L
3. Serum calcium
Adult: < 7.5 mg/dL or > 12.0 mg/dL
Pediatric: < 7.0 mg/dL (for ionized calcium values see newborn criteria)
4. Serum bilirubin
Adult: > 2.5 mg/dL
Pediatric: > 15.0 mg/dL indirect or total bilirubin
5. CO₂ combining power shows non-compensated acidosis/alkalosis by arterial blood gas documenting either HCO₃ < 20 mEq/L or > 36 mEq/L or PaCO₂ < 30 mmHg or > 50 mmHg
6. Arterial blood pH < 7.30 or > 7.55 (identified within the last 48 hours)
7. Hemoglobin (Hgb) 10 g/dL or less with active bleeding or a 3 g/dL drop from baseline
8. Toxic drug level as evidenced by laboratory report
9. White blood count < 3,000 μ /L or > 16,000 μ /L
10. Hemoglobin (Hgb) < 9 g/dL or > 20 g/dL with signs of volume depletion
11. Hematocrit (Hct) < 24% or > 55%
12. Positive blood culture
13. Pediatric: Metabolic acidosis with venous lactate level > 2 mEq/L

Functional impairment (identified within last 72 hours)

14. Unconsciousness
15. Disorientation
16. Delirium
17. Motor function loss--any body part
18. Loss of sensation--any body part
19. Severe articular restriction and somatic dysfunction
20. Change in mental status from baseline or an abrupt deterioration over previous functional level
21. Fall with inability to ambulate, in a previously ambulatory person

Physical findings

- 22. Penetrating wounds
- 23. Continuous hemorrhage from any site
- 24. Wound disruption (requiring closure)
- 25. Dehiscence/evisceration
- 26. Seizures uncontrolled by medication
- 27. Congenital abnormality admitted for surgical intervention requiring hospitalization
- 28. Documentation of malignancy and admitted for treatment requiring hospitalization
- 29. Generalized edema
- 30. Clinical signs of dehydration to include two or more of the following: altered mental status, lethargy, light-headedness, syncope, decreased skin turgor, dry mucous membranes, tachycardia, or orthostatic hypotension