Examples of Infirmary Level Care

1. Pregnancy:
   a. Few days postpartum
   b. Pregnancies with complications, e.g. gestational diabetes, HTN, pre-eclampsia, placenta previa, oligohydramnios, poor weight gain
   c. End of term pregnancies, usually 36 weeks on
2. Infectious disease:
   a. Contagious diseases, i.e. measles, mumps, TB
   b. Infectious diseases that might put the rest of the facility at risk
   c. MRSA open infection
3. Complex wound care
   a. Major invasive wound care
   b. Open wounds needing multiple dressings, sterile gowns.
   c. Paraplegic with open contact ulcer on sacrum,
4. Uncontrolled diabetics:
   a. Type 1 diabetic with open ulcer, infected on foot
   b. Unstable DM requiring IV treatment & frequent monitoring
5. Special Needs Patients
   a. Terminal patient needing frequent bed changes and pain meds.
   b. Patients with medical concerns e.g. wired jaws, significant external hardware
   c. Patients at risk for neutropenia or undergoing chemotherapy or radiation
   d. Patients who cannot perform ADL's
   e. Patients with indwelling medical devices e.g. central lines, catheters, post-op drains
   f. Physical injury where the patient is incapable of protecting him/herself in general population.
   g. Surgical preps such as colonoscopy or NPO orders
   h. Stabilization of acute illnesses (hyper/hypoglycemia, hypertensive crisis)
6. IV therapy:
   a. Antibiotics
   b. With a "line" patients on parenteral nutrition / tube feedings
   c. Where timing of peaks, troughs, or other levels
   d. Significant GI loss requiring IV replacement
   e. Recurrent parenteral antibiotics

1 This list are only examples of patients needing Infirmary Level of Care and is not intended to be all inclusive or exclusive
2 I wish to thank Drs. Sheldon, Hurowitz, Mya, Wilcox, Mendel, Ivens, Clarke & Ogunsanwo who gave valuable input in the compilation of this list
7. Medication management
   a. Patients requiring injectable pain medication
   b. Patients on forced medication protocols
8. Severe Mental illness:
   a. Active psychosis
   b. Suicidal patients—mental health infirmary level care
   c. Mental conditions where patient could be a victim or aggressor
9. Severe intoxication with substance abuse
   a. Severe withdrawal
   b. Treatment of rising CIWA or COWS scores with active withdrawal symptoms.
10. Unstable respiratory status
    a. Asthma requiring frequent intervention and monitoring
    b. Viral pneumonia requiring oxygen, close monitoring of VS and respiratory function, and prn acute respiratory treatment.
    c. Bordering on status asthmaticus, requiring IV medication
    d. Respiratory infection with oxygen saturation < 90 on room air
11. Chemotherapy
    a. Post chemotherapy requiring parenteral anti genetics
    b. Chemotherapy requiring isolation and/or parenteral access
    c. Chemo-therapy patient with absolute neutrophil count < 500
12. End-stage Illness:
    a. Liver disease that needs frequent peritoneal tap
    b. End-stage malignancy warranting opiates, coupled with mobility restrictions
    c. End-stage congestive heart failure, coupled with mobility restrictions
13. Any acute disease entity that requires monitoring of vital signs more than once a day
    a. Monitoring and treating hepatic failure
    b. Skilled nursing care
    c. Intractable epilepsy
    d. Patients on ventilators, or TPN, or continuous infusion
    e. Hypertensive urgency patients
    f. Newly paralyzed patients esp. if but reason unknown
14. Post-hospitalization:
    a. Laparotomy needing wound care
    b. ORIF of a lower limb needing wound care
    c. Short term post-op joint replacement.
    d. S/P major surgery—abdominal, thoracic, major orthopedic, ENT
    e. Inmate that received in-patient hospital care but discharged before full recovery
    f. Patient within 1st week of open abdominal surgery
    g. Patients within 6 weeks of open heart surgery
    h. Post joint replacement patients
    i. Post-stroke stabilization (post-hospital)