

Examples of Infirmery Level Care^{1 2}

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 Infirmery Level of Care and is not intended to be all inclusive or exclusive

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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)