

WAC 246-320-261 Critical or intensive care services. The purpose of this section is to guide the management and care of patients receiving critical or intensive care services. Hospitals are not required to provide these services in order to be licensed.

If providing a critical care unit or services, hospitals must:

(1) Define the qualifications and oversight of staff delivering critical or intensive care services;

(2) Assure at least two licensed nurses skilled and trained in critical care, on duty and in the hospital at all times, when patients are present, and:

(a) Immediately available to provide care to admitted patients; and

(b) All registered nurses trained and current in cardiopulmonary resuscitation with:

(i) Training for the safe and effective use of specialized equipment and procedures in the particular area; and

(ii) At least one registered nurse having successfully completed an advanced cardiac life support training program;

(3) Assure laboratory, radiology, and respiratory care services available in a timely manner; and

(4) Use hospital policies and procedures which define standards of care.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.41 RCW and RCW 43.70.040. WSR 09-07-050, § 246-320-261, filed 3/11/09, effective 4/11/09.]