

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

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Introduction

Post-anesthesia care involves three phases for care (phase I, phase II and extended observation) that progress from a high-level of care involving continuous monitoring to a less frequent level of monitoring. Phase I, phase II and extended observation levels of care may be located within a single post-anesthesia care unit/area (PACU) or may be located in a physically separate area of the facility.

If different levels of care (i.e. phase I and phase II) take place in the same physical location (i.e. single PACU area), the nurse qualifications and nurse-to-patient ratios observed shall be in accordance with the highest level of care required by any patient (i.e. phase I patient) receiving care.

No.	Description
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PACU1.0	POST-
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No.	Description	
PACU1.6	The PACU is appropriately equipped.	
PACU1.6.1	M	Each phase I bed/stretcherspace is equipped with cardiac monitoring.
PACU1.6.2	M	Each phase I bed/stretcherspace is equipped with blood pressure monitoring.
PACU1.6.3	M	Each phase I bed/stretcherspace is equipped with pulse oximetry.
PACU1.6.4	M	Each phase I bed/stretcherspace is equipped with suction equipment.
PACU1.6.5	M	Each phase I bed/stretcherspace is equipped with oxygen equipment.
PACU1.6.6	M	Each phase I bed/stretcherspace is equipped with a bag-valve-mask device.
PACU1.6.7	M	Each phase I bed/stretcherspace is equipped with artificial airways.
PACU1.6.8	M	Each phase II bed/stretcherspace is equipped with vital signs monitoring equipment.
PACU1.6.9	M	Each phase II bed/stretcherspace is equipped with suction equipment.
PACU1.6.10	M	Each phase II bed/stretcherspace is equipped with oxygen equipment.
PACU1.6.11	M	Temperature monitoring equipment is readily available in the PACU.
PACU1.6.12	M	Clinical support supplies are readily available in the PACU.

No.	Description
PACU1.7.14	M

No.	Description
PACU1.7.19	M Readiness for discharge home or transfer to extended observation/overnight stay level of care is based upon an objective discharge scoring system.

PACU2.0 EXTENDED OBSERVATION

PACU2.1 Extended observation staffing supports safe patient care.

PACU2.1.1 M Two nurses are present in the extended observation area at all times when a patient is receiving care.

