

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20307-5001

Nursing Policy

23 July 2005

Scope of Patient Care and Service

- 1. UNIT TITLE:** Ward 57 Orthopedics/Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Unit
- 2. DESCRIPTION:** Ward 57 is a 24 bed adult unit with an average daily census of 21 patients.
- 3. PATIENT POPULATION SERVED:** Any adult or geriatric patient requiring orthopedic or rehabilitative intervention who is eligible for care as designated by the Defense Eligibility and Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS) and the Patient Administration Department.
- 4. CONDITIONS AND DIAGNOSES TREATED:** Amputation, spinal fusion, broken bones due to trauma, total joint replacements (total hip arthroplasty, total knee arthroplasty), and rehabilitation for a multitude of diagnosis.
 - a. High Volume:
 - 1) Wound Debridement and Skin Graft
 - 2) Major Joint and Limb Reattachment Procedures of the lower extremity
 - 3) Spinal Fusions
 - 4) Lower Extremity and Humerous Procedures
 - 5) Rehabilitation : fitting and Adjustment/prosthetic devices, and Aftercare (Physical Therapy, Vocational and Occupational Therapy)
 - b. High Risk:
 - 1) Multi-trauma, ward-injured victims
 - 2) Geriatric Patients with co-morbidities
 - c. Problem Prone:
 - 1) Geriatric Patients with co-morbidities
 - 2) Wound Infections and multi-drug resistant organism

d. High Cost:

- 1) Traumatic Injuries
- 2) Long-term rehabilitation patients
- 3) Wound Debridement and skin grafts

e. Excluded Patients/Services:

- 1) Intravenous cardiac drips
- 2) Arterial Lines
- 3) Post – operative patients not fully recovered from anesthesia based on the PACU Protocol
- 4) Cardiac Monitoring
- 5) Vital signs more frequently than every four hours, excluding post –procedure monitoring.

5. STANDARDS OR GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICE:

- a. AR 570-4, Manpower Management, 15 May 2000.
- b. FM 8-501, The Workload Management System for Nursing, Nov 1990.
- c. WRAMC Regulations
- d. WRAMC Nursing Polices
- e. Unit level standard operating procedures
- f. American Nurses Association, Scope and Standards of Practice, 2004.
- g. Springhouse, Nursing Procedures, Lippincott, 2004. To accompany software program: Procedures, Version 2.2, Lippincott, 2004

6. TREATMENTS AND ACTIVITIES PERFORMED: All nursing activities are performed in accordance with the Scope of Practice and Competency Based Orientation. Common clinical activities include: admission assessments, patient and family teaching, venipunctures, peripheral intravenous therapy, fingerstick blood glucose monitoring, blood transfusions, medication administration, urinary catheterization, nasogastric tube insertion, tube feedings, oral or nasogastric suctioning, chest tubes, lumbar drains, dressing and wound care, respiratory treatments, oxygen therapy, vital signs monitoring, pain management with epidural, nerve block and PCA management, and ongoing assessments and documentation of nursing and medical intervention.

7. PERSONNEL PROVIDING CARE:

a. Nursing:

- 1) Registered nurses
- 2) Licensed practical nurses
- 3) Nursing Assistants
- 4) Medical Records Technicians

b. Other Personnel:

- 1) Physicians
- 2) Physician Assistants
- 3) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists
- 4) Physical Therapists
- 5) Occupational Therapist
- 6) Social Workers and Discharge Planners
- 7) Pharmacists
- 8) Dietitians
- 9) Respiratory Therapy
- 10) Radiology Technicians
- 11) Laboratory Technicians
- 12) Logistics
- 13) Chaplain
- 14) Volunteers- Red Cross

c. Unit core staffing plan

Wd 57	ASAM Authorizations TDA 0202		Weekday Staffing Matrix (excluding Head Nurse and Wardmaster)			Weekend Staffing Matrix (excluding Head Nurse and Wardmaster)		
	Military	Civilian	Day	Evening	Night	Day	Evening	Night
RN	10	5	5	4	3	4	3	3
LPN	7	2	3	3	2	2	2	2
NA	7	3	4	4	2	3	3	2
MRT	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0

8. HOURS OF SERVICE: 24 hours per day