**Severity of Illness**

**Signs & Symptoms**

1. Sight, hearing and/or speech loss
2. Loss of Sensation and/or movement of any body part
3. Impaired breathing (sudden onset, i.e. Acute CHF, COPD exacerbation)
4. Loss of consciousness
5. Disorientation or change in Mental status from baseline
6. Gross continuous hemorrhage from any site, or pt. aware of vomiting or passing blood from rectum or urinary tract, melena
7. Wound dehiscence or evisceration
8. Incapacitating pain not relieved by course of outpatient treatment for at least 5 days
9. Arrhythmia
10. Chest Pain
11. Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Vital Signs**

1. Temperature > 102
2. Pulse < 50 or > 140/minute
3. Systolic BP < 80 mm/Hg or > 180 mm/Hg with symptoms
4. Diastolic BP > 120 mm/Hg
5. Respirations increased for age or accessory muscle use
6. O2 saturation < 89% on Room Air

**Diagnostic Tests**

1. Serum Na+ <123 mEq/L or >156 mEq/L
2. Serum K+ < 2.5 mEq/L or > 6.0 mEq/L
3. BUN: CR (ratio) >20
4. PO2 <50
5. PCO2 >50
6. CO2 combining power <16 mEq/L or >36 mEq/L
7. Arterial Blood pH <7.30 or > 7.45
8. WBC > 15,000/cu. Mm.
9. Blood sugar < 50 or > 400 or widely fluctuating sugars not controlled through outpatient treatment
10. Presence of toxic level of chemical substance or drug
11. Hct <18 g/dL with signs of volume depletion or <25 and age > 65 or >30 mm/HG BP drop
12. Chest X-Ray shows Pneumonia w/ > 2 lobes or > age 65, comorbid condition or O2 sat <90%

**Intensity of Service**

**Clinical Monitoring/Observations**

1. Vital Signs (TPR & BP) Q4 hours
2. O2 saturation at least Q4 hours
3. Neuro checks at least Q4 hours
4. Output (urinary, gastric, etc) at least Q4hours
5. Telemetry
6. Labs (ABG’s electrolytes, Cardiac Markers, etc)

**Specific Pharmaceutical Requirements**

1. IV therapy requiring at least 1500ml/24hours
2. Insulin adjustment with Blood Sugars >2 times a day
3. IV or IM meds at least 3 or more times daily or one time daily recommended dose IV antibiotics
4. Oxygen
5. Nebulizer treatments at least Q4 hours

**Surgical/Special Procedures**

1. Surgery or procedure scheduled within 24 hours of admit which requires regional or general anesthesia (not on approved outpatient list)
2. Patient admitted for surgical preparation outside 24 hour limit because he/she is metabolically unstable and requires inpatient stabilization prior to administration of anesthesia (i.e. K+, hydration, glucose, etc.)
3. Patient admitted for pre-op preparation for surgical procedure when prep can only be handled using inpatient facilities or services

**General Quality Screen**

1. Other identified quality of care problems (to be used only if other possibilities have been exhausted)
2. Requesting substance abuse rehab