

Private Duty Nursing Acuity Scale

Skilled Nursing Needs	Points	Skilled Nursing Need	Points	SCORE	
No tracheostomy, Patent airway	0	No chest PT, HFCWO vest or cough assist device	0		
No tracheostomy, unstable airway with desaturations and Airway clearance issues	1	HFCWO - High Frequency Chest Wall Oscillation			
Tracheostomy - routine care	2	Chest PT, HFCWO vest, cough assist 1-4x/day	2		
Tracheostomy - special care (tissue breakdown, frequent tube replacements)	3	Chest PT, HFCWO vest, cough assist MORE than 4x/day	4		
No suctioning	0	Medication Needs (# of admin/shift not # of medications)			
Nasal/oral/pharyngeal suctioning by nurse	1	Does not include oxygen/nebulizer administration			
Tracheal suctioning: 2 - 10x/day	2	Medication delivery 2 dose admin. or LESS /shift	0		
Tracheal suctioning: > 10x/day	3	Medication delivery 2-6 dose admin/shift	1		
No oxygen usage	0	Medication delivery MORE than 7 admin/shift	2		
Oxygen - daily use	1	No IV Access	0		
Oxygen administration based upon pulse oximetry readings	1.5	Peripheral IV Access	1		
Humidification & oxygen - direct (via tracheostomy but not with ventilator)	1.5	Central Line of port, PICC line, Hickman	2		
No ventilator, BiPap, or CPAP	0	No IV medication delivery	0		
Ventilator - continuous 24 hours/day	10	IV med/Transfusion less than daily but more than weekly	1		
Ventilator -> 12-24 hours/day	5	IV medication admin. Q4 hours or LESS often	2		
Ventilator < 12 hours/day	2.5	IV medication admin. Q4 hours or MORE often	3		
BiPap, CPAP by nurse during shift: 8 hours or less	3	Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN)	4		
BiPap, CPAP by nurse during shift: more than 8 hours/day	4				
No nebulizer treatments	0	No regular blood draws, or less than 2x/week	0		
Nebulizer treatments (by nurse) less than daily but at least 1x/week	1	Regular blood draws / IV peripheral site - 2x/week	1		
Nebulizer treatments (by nurse) every 4 hours or LESS often but at least daily	1.5	Regular blood draws / Central line - 2x/week	2		
Nebulizer treatments (by nurse) every 4 hours or MORE often	2				
SubTOTAL		SubTOTAL			
		TOTAL SCORE			

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PRIVATE DUTY NURSING ACUITY SCALE

Skilled Nursing Needs	Points	Skilled Nursing Needs	Points	Score	
Routine oral feeding or No tube-feeding required	0	Continent of bowel and bladder function	0		
Documented difficult/prolonged oral feeding by NURSE	2	Uncontrolled incontinence but < 3 yrs of age	0		
Tube feeding (Routine bolus OR Continuous)	2	Uncontrolled incontinence EITHER bowel or bladder > 3 yrs	1		
Tube feeding (combination Bolus AND Continuous)	3	Uncontrolled incontinence, BOTH bowel and bladder > 3 yrs	2		
Complicated Tube Feeding - required residual checks and aspiration precautions	3.5	Incontinence and intermittent straight catheterization, indwelling, suprapubic, or condom catheter	3		
Seizures		Ostomy Care - Bowel or Bladder	3		
		Peritoneal Dialysis - performed by nurse	3		
No seizure activity	0	Wound Care			
Mild seizures - at least daily, but no intervention	0				
Mild seizures, at least 4/week with each requiring minimal intervention	1	None of the options below apply	0		
Moderate seizures - at least once daily requiring minimal intervention	2	Wound Vac	2		
Moderate seizures - 2 - 5/day with each requiring minimal intervention	2.5	Stage 1-2, wound care at least daily (including tracheostomy, G/J tube site)	2		
Severe seizures - > 10/month all requiring intervention	3	Therapies			
Severe seizures - at least 1x/day requiring IV/IM/Rectal medication intervention	3.5		Stage 3-4, multiple wound sites		3
Severe seizures - > 1/day requiring IV/IM/Rectal medication intervention	4				
Assessment		Passive Range of Motion at least every shift	1		
Initial assessment/shift	0	Splinting schedule requires nurse to remove/replace every shift			
Second documented complete assessment/shift	1		1		
Three or more complete assessments/shift	2	Splinting schedule requires nurse to remove/replace at least 2x/shift.			
Choose one if at least 2 of the 4 are ordered and documented			2		
VS/Glucose/Neuro/Resp - assess 1x/day	0	Issues Interfering with Care			
VS/Glucose/Neuro/Resp - assess 1x/shift or less often than every 4 hours	1		Unwilling or unable to cooperate	1	
VS/Glucose/Neuro/Resp - assess at least every 4 hours	2		Weight > 100 lbs or immobility increases care difficulty	1	
VS/Glucose/Neuro/Resp - assess at least every 2 hours	3		Unable to express needs and wants	1	
SubTOTAL		SubTOTAL			

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PRIVATE DUTY NURSING ACUTY SCALE

SCORE (Total Score from Page 1 + Total Score of Page 2) = 0

Instructions:

Circle points to the right of the identified skilled care need, add down each column to get the SubTotals. Add all SubTotals for Grand Total

Totals equal:

15 -25 points = 4-8 hours/day -> up to 56 hours/week

26-35 points = 8-12 hours/day -> up to 84 hours/week

36-45 points = 12-16 hours/day -> up to 112 hours/week

46 - 55 points = 16-20 hours/day -> up to 140 hours/week