GREEN (Self-sufficient):
• 1-3 liters nasal cannula or room air
• patients undergoing diuresis
• alternate level of care
• pending discharge
• minimal assist or ambulatory self-care
• pain control more than 6 hours
• peripherial IV
• oral and subcutaneous medications
• electrolyte repletion
• patients pending 1-2 diagnostic procedures
• basic IV antibiotic administration (1-2 antibiotics)
• hallway patients
• rule out myocardial infarction (two confirmed negative troponin tests)

YELLOW (Baseline resources):
• patients requiring oxygen therapy via nasal cannula at a rate greater than or equal to 4 liters.
• One of the following: nephrostomy, urinary catheter, urostomy, ileostomy, abscess drain, suprapubic catheter, percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy or jejunostomy tube (PEG/PEJ)
• Patient pending multiple diagnostic procedures (for example, CT, ultrasound, PET, MRI)
• challenging patient behaviors or challenging family behaviors
• pain control Q4-Q6 hours
• pain well controlled on patient controlled analgesia (PCA)
• one blood product per shift
• PICC line
• diabetic or heart failure and 1 other acuity measurement
• easily addressed complete care and minimal assist patients
• IV medications Q4-Q6 hours
• heparin infusion
• stable alcohol withdrawal patient
• patients on 1:1 requiring infrequent interventions
• pressure ulcers (Q2 hour repositioning) and standard wound care.

RED (More than baseline resources):
• unstable patient (hypertension, hypotension, trach, venti-mask, nonrebreather mask)
• more than one of the following: nephrostomy, urinary catheter, urostomy, ileostomy, abscess drain, suprapubic catheter, PEG/PEJ or complex complete care patients
• challenging patient and family behaviors
• actively dying patient
• pain control Q2 or Q3 hours
• uncontrolled pain on PCA
• more than one blood product per shift
• actively going through withdrawal
• patients on 1:1 requiring frequent interventions
• complex or frequent IV medications (for example, every 2 or 3 hours, intravenous immunoglobulin therapy)
• dual diagnosis (substance abuse and mental disorder)
• patients actively receiving chemotherapy
• complex wound care
• confused patients at great risk for falls.

Developed by Paul Andrews Jones