PACU Charge Nurse Clinical Tally Sheet  
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**Purpose:** Our Recovery Room sees 80-90 patients a day. Acuity changes frequently. A clinical tally sheet was developed to track data on post-operative patient acuity. This information is evaluated by PACU leadership for review of daily acute care situations.

**Implementation:** The PACU charge nurse makes frequent rounds throughout the unit using a tool designed to gather specific acuity information. The tool includes information such as codes, intubations, extubations, ventilated patients, arterial line and/or central line insertions, chest tube insertions, nerve blocks, and the use of vasoactive drugs. The tool allows for additional specific critical care data to be written in that may not be on the pre-printed form.

**Evaluation:** Data gathered has given staff and leadership more insight into the frequency of critical situations. The information aids in assessing staffing needs for the department. Being a level I trauma center and academic institution, there are not enough high acuity beds for the large volume of acute patients which may pass through the recovery room. This can lead to boarding of these challenging patients in the recovery area. Our staffing is directly related to this data.