

NOVA SCOTIA REHABILITATION CENTRE ADMISSION GUIDELINES AND CONSULT REVIEW

This document is designed to assist the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Consult Service in selecting appropriate patients for admission to the Nova Scotia Rehabilitation Centre. It is not meant to replace clinical judgment or to be all inclusive.

ADMISSION GUIDELINES CHECK LIST
16 years of age or older
Patient & family agree to inpatient transfer to admission
Medically stable, defined as:
□ The medical diagnosis and course of treatment for primary and secondary diagnoses are established
Patient's vital signs and laboratory test results are in the acceptable range for the medical condition of the patient
Patient's course of treatment is not anticipated to require laboratory diagnostic studies more than once a day or
frequent transfers to other facilities for procedures.
Patient demonstrates motivation and is able to consistently and actively participate in therapy, including minimum requirements of:
□ Sitting tolerance of at least 1 hour, two - three times per day
□ Capacity to actively participate in 2 hours of therapeutic intervention per day
Patient has functional challenges that require interdisciplinary tertiary rehab management
Patient demonstrates the potential to make timely reasonable functional gains
Patient demonstrates consistent ability to learn - shows consistency in following instructions, cognitively demonstrates carryover of
information and learning session to session.
□ Requires cognitive screening (if appropriate) with standardized tool such as O-Log, Cog-log and MoCA)
Specific rehab-related procedure requirements - baclofen test dose, PEG tube placement
** Discharge planning initiated by acute/RCU hospital team, and barriers to discharge being addressed
Patient who requires a wheelchair for mobility has wheelchair provided (or ordered) and patient will arrive with wheelchair
Patient with a diagnosis of cancer or other complex case:
Requires a collaborative treatment plan in place with all involved prior to consideration for transfer (eg. radiation oncology,
heme oncology, palliative), including agreement to take patient back in transfer if medical condition deteriorates as
determined by physiatrist
Chemo / radiation treatment plan identified and will not interfere with patient's ability to participate
 Requires an estimate of prognosis – to generate appropriate rehab goals

ABI SPECIFIC GUIDELINES
For patients with aphasia: (see also specific exclusion criterion for those with aphasia)
Requires a full assessment by SLP and documented potential to progress
Can tolerate a minimum of a 30 minute session
Has sufficient potential family/caregiver support in identified discharge location to follow through with any required behavioral plan or
environmental modifications.
MSK SPECIFIC GUIDELINES
Restrictions/Precautions clarified eg. Weight bearing status including how long restriction is in place
Patient has capacity to progress mobility within current weight bearing restrictions
Any limiting factors identified eg. Pain has been limiting participation / up time
ROM orders clarified – passive versus active versus resisted
Specific post-surgical protocols explained and copy of post op guideline sent if applicable
Recheck appointment (with surgeon) - date and time identified prior to admission to rehab
For prosthetic candidates - Amp No Pro score of at least 8 and Cognitive Screen (MoCA) completed to evaluate executive function
For prosthetic candidates - patient has gone home for overnight passes at the wheelchair level, home is accessible
Body Weight known - for prosthesis or specialized equipment
EXCLUSIONARY CRITERIA
 Direct admission from Emergency, ICU or IMCU (eg. patient has not had trial of acute hospital rehab participation)
Patient's primary diagnosis is psychiatric, palliative, or will likely require long-term care placement with no reasonable rehabilitation goals
identified
Patient requires interventions or treatment that limits consistent active participation in therapy (e.g. cardiac monitoring, ventilation
assistance, suctioning, ongoing need for O2, complex IV therapy, complex wound management)
Patient is able to meet their rehabilitation goals through working with acute/RCU care team, outpatients or community based programs:
If seating is only goal: patient has access to transportation and lives within reasonable distance of NSRC
Transferring service is capable of procuring services requested at NSRC (eg. Home visit, equipment, ramp, home support arrangement)
Behavior:
Patient has demonstrated extreme verbal or physically aggressive behaviors
Has behaviors that are not able to be managed with a behavioral plan that cannot be accommodated by the NSRC
Requires use of restraints
Patient is at high risk for elopement
Primary diagnosis is psychiatric - including functional movement/conversion disorders
Addiction-related behaviours limiting ability to participate in therapies
For patients with aphasia:
Does not establish joint reference
Does not appear to have a desire to communicate (e.g., Will not engage in eye contact, does not exchange a greeting of "hello"
or "goodbye" in any manner - verbal or non-verbal)
Patient requires more than 2 person maximum assist for transfers or bed mobility (including turns)
Patient requires 1 on 1 nursing
Patient requires TPN or PPN
Patient requires ongoing investigations and/or medical management
Please note that the NSRC has a zero-tolerance policy for the use of drugs or alcohol