

Chronic Health Definitions

Organ insufficiency or immuno-compromised state evident prior to this hospital admission and are consistent with the following criteria:

Liver: Biopsy-proven cirrhosis and documented portal hypertension; prior episodes of upper GI bleeding attributed to portal hypertension; or prior episodes of hepatic failure/encephalopathy/coma

Cardiovascular: New York Heart Association Class IV

Respiratory: Chronic restrictive, obstructive, or vascular disease resulting in severe exercise restriction (i.e., unable to climb stairs or perform activities of daily living or household duties; or documented chronic hyposia, hypercapnia, secondary polycythemia, severe pulmonary hypertension (>40 mmHg), or ventilator dependency

Renal: Receiving chronic dialysis

Immuno-Compromised: The patient has received therapy that suppresses resistance to infection (i.e., immuno-suppressive treatment, chemotherapy, radiation, long term or recent high dose steroids, or has a disease that is sufficiently advanced to suppress resistance to infection (i.e., leukaemia, lymphoma, AIDS)