

## Appendix 2: Prioritization tool used in triage protocol for the assessment of patients' needs for critical care during an influenza pandemic.

### Initial assessment

Triage code	Criteria	Action or priority
Blue	Exclusion criteria met or SOFA score > 11*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage medically</li> <li>• Provide palliative care as needed</li> <li>• Discharge from critical care</li> </ul>
Red	SOFA score ≤ 7 or single-organ failure	Highest priority
Yellow	SOFA score 8–11	Intermediate priority
Green	No significant organ failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defer or discharge</li> <li>• Reassess as needed</li> </ul>

### 48-hour assessment

Triage code	Criteria	Action or priority
Blue	Exclusion criteria met or SOFA score > 11 or SOFA score stable at 8–11 with no change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide palliative care</li> <li>• Discharge from critical care</li> </ul>
Red	SOFA score < 11 and decreasing	Highest priority
Yellow	SOFA score stable at < 8 with no change	Intermediate priority
Green	No longer dependant on ventilator	• Discharge from critical care

### 120-hour assessment

Triage code	Criteria	Action or priority
Blue	Exclusion criteria met or SOFA score > 11 or SOFA score < 8 with no change†	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide palliative care</li> <li>• Discharge from critical care</li> </ul>
Red	SOFA < 11 and decreasing progressively	Highest priority
Yellow	SOFA < 8 with minimal decrease (< 3-point decrease in past 72 h)	Intermediate priority
Green	No longer dependant on ventilator	• Discharge from critical care

Note: SOFA = Sequential Organ-Failure Assessment (see Appendix 1, available at [www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/175/11/1377/DC1](http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/175/11/1377/DC1)).  
 \*If an exclusion criterion is met or the SOFA score is > 11 anytime from the initial assessment to 48 hours afterward, change the triage code to Blue and proceed as indicated.  
 †If an exclusion criterion is met or the SOFA score is > 11 anytime from 48 to 120 hours afterward, change the triage code to Blue and proceed as indicated.