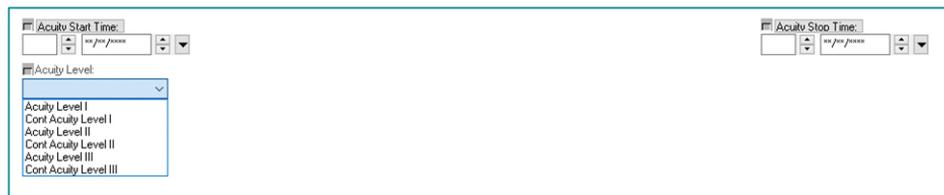
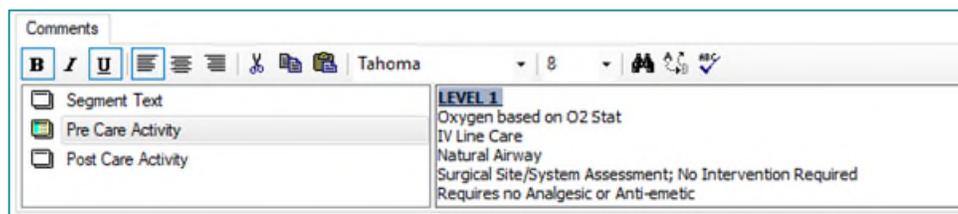


The Acuity Level Segment in the post op phase in Perioperative Documentation will include three base acuity levels. Accurately documenting the acuity levels of care, in the PACU and Post-Op Phases (including Endoscopy areas), helps capture recovery charges.

## Acuity Segment in Periop Doc



- There are three “base” Acuity Levels that can be documented.
  - **Acuity Level I** – A base Acuity Level. It is also the *lowest* level of care. No other base charges can be documented.
  - **Acuity Level II** – A base Acuity Level. No other base charges can be documented.
  - **Acuity Level III** – A base Acuity Level. It is also the *highest* level of care. No other base charges can be documented.
- There are three change/Cont Levels to update acuity as the patient progresses.
  - **Cont Acuity Level I**
  - **Cont Acuity Level II**
  - **Cont Acuity Level III**
- **Where to find the acuity level care qualifications.**
  - The acuity level qualifications are located within the segment under the Pre Care Activity comments. Scroll down to see the other levels.



## Rules for Documenting Acuity Levels

**NOTE:** Acuity Levels should only be documented if the case is an Anesthesia Case. If it is not an anesthesia case, deactivate the segment.

- Only ONE documentation for ONE base acuity level. All other changes in level are Cont Acuity levels.
  - The reason is the system starts the timer at the documented base level.

**NOTE:** Documenting two base levels creates duplicate charges.

- **Example:** Patient in PACU needs **Acuity Level III** care for the first 30 minutes. The patient has now dropped down to an **Cont Acuity Level II** care for at least 15 minutes before being transferred to Phase II care. Nurses in Phase II *will only use Cont Acuity Levels* since the base charge is already documented in PACU.

PACU Record Example

Acuity Start Time	Acuity Stop Time	Acuity Level
 12/18/2024 14:30	12/18/2024 15:00	Acuity Level III
 12/18/2024 15:00	12/18/2024 15:05	Cont Acuity Level II

Phase II Record Example

Acuity Start Time	Acuity Stop Time	Acuity Level
 12/18/2024 15:05	12/18/2024 15:10	Cont Acuity Level II
 12/18/2024 15:10	12/18/2024 15:12	Cont Acuity Level I

- Multiple Cont Acuity Level documentation is allowed.
  - As the patient moves from distinct levels of acuity, the documentation will also show how the patient is recovering from the effects of anesthesia. The timer continues until the patient is ready for discharge.
    - **Example:** An endoscopy patient that received a MAC during the case qualifies for Level II care. The nurse will document a base Acuity Level II and then a Cont Acuity Level I; however, the patient develops nausea and vomiting. At this time, the nurse can document Cont Acuity Level II until the patient drops down to Level I care.

Example of Base and Multiple Cont Acuity Levels

Acuity Start Time	Acuity Stop Time	Acuity Level
 12/18/2024 14:00	12/18/2024 14:10	Acuity Level II
 12/18/2024 14:10	12/18/2024 14:15	Cont Acuity Level I
 12/18/2024 14:15	12/18/2024 14:45	Cont Acuity Level II
 12/18/2024 14:45	12/18/2024 14:58	Cont Acuity Level I