Hospitalization Status Guidelines for Cellulitis

Most patients with Cellulitis should be placed in Observation, and will not qualify for Full Admission Status, unless

- at least ONE criteria for Severity of Illness
- AND ONE criteria for Intensity of Service are documented in both the History and Physical and Progress Notes:

Severity of Illness: (must document at least ONE)

- Cellulitis or skin inflammation AND ONE
  - Failure of outpatient Rx ≥ 5 days or ≥ 5 doses antibiotics
  - Progression despite 24h outpatient treatment
  - Purpura or petechiae
  - Involvement of > 50% of 1 limb or 10% of Body Surface Area
  - ANC < 500
  - Animal or human bite on face or hand
  - Herpes zoster in ≥ 2 dermatomes
  - Toxic shock syndrome

Intensity of Service: At least ONE of the following treatment modalities must also be present to qualify for full admission: (must document at least ONE)

- IV Antibiotics AND ONE
  - ANC < 500
  - Pending cultures ≤ 2 days
  - T > 100.4 (per rectum)
- IVF > 125 cc/hr or > 100cc/hr and age > 65 AND ONE
  - BUN / Cr > 20
  - Na > 150
  - NPO
  - Active vomiting
  - Unresponsive to antiemetics