

Activity 4 Assessing patients

Activity sheet

Using the guide chart for the National Early Warning Score 2 (NEWS 2) scoring system, calculate the score for each patient at the different time entries on the observation charts. Write the answers in the score chart below. Identify which patient we should be most concerned about and at what time.

Patient scoring

Medical observation	Patient A			Patient B			Patient C		
	07:00	11:00	15:00	07:00	11:00	15:00	07:00	11:00	15:00
Respiration rate									
Oxygen saturation									
Respiratory support									
Temperature									
Systolic blood pressure									
Pulse rate									
Level of consciousness (A lert, C onfusion, V oice, P ain, U nresponsive)									
Total									

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Guide chart for the NEWS scoring system

Medical observation	Normal range	0 points	1 point	2 points	3 points
Respiration rate	12 to 20 breaths per minute	12 to 20	9 to 11	21 to 24	≤8 or ≥25
Oxygen saturation	96 to 99%	≥96	94 to 95	92 to 93	≤91
Respiratory support				Oxygen	
Temperature (°C)	36.1 to 38.0	36.1 to 38.0	35.1 to 36.0 or 38.1 to 39.0	≥39.1	≤35.0
Systolic blood pressure	120 or above	111 to 219	101 to 110	91 to 100	≤90 or ≥220
Pulse rate	51 to 90	51 to 90	41 to 50 or 91 to 110	111 to 130	≤40 or ≥131
Level of consciousness (Alert, Confusion, Voice, Pain, Unresponsive)	If the patient is alert when they are approached, they score 0 points and the CVPU part is not needed. If the patient is not alert, a nurse would first see if the patient is responsive to voice, if not voice, to a pain stimuli and if not that, they are unresponsive	Alert			Confusion, voice, pain or unresponsive

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Patient A observation chart

NEWS key		FULL NAME PATIENT A												
0 1 2 3		DATE OF BIRTH						DATE OF ADMISSION						
		DATE	TIME	07:00	11:00	15:00							DATE	TIME
A+B Respirations Breaths/min	≥25													
	21–24													
	18–20													
	15–17													
	12–14			13		12								
	9–11													
	≤8										8			
A+B SpO ₂ Scale 1 Oxygen saturation (%)	≥96			99										
	94–95													
	92–93													
	≤91										82			
SpO₂ Scale 2† Oxygen saturation (%) <small>Use Scale 2 if target range is 88–92%, eg in hypercapnic respiratory failure</small>	≥97 on O ₂													
	95–96 on O ₂													
	93–94 on O ₂													
	≥93 on air													
	88–92													
	86–87													
	84–85													
	≤83%													
Air or oxygen?	A=Air													
	O ₂ L/min													
	Device	Non		Non		Non								
C Blood pressure mmHg <small>Score uses systolic BP only</small>	≥220													
	201–219													
	181–200													
	161–180													
	141–160													
	121–140			127		130					140			
	111–120													
	101–110													
	91–100													
	81–90													
	71–80													
	61–70													
	≤50													
C Pulse Beats/min	≥131													
	121–130													
	111–120													
	101–110													
	91–100													
	81–90													
	71–80			80										
	61–70													
	51–60													
	41–50													
	31–40													
	≤30													
	D Consciousness <small>Score for NEWS onset of confusion (no score if chronic)</small>	Alert			ALERT		ALERT							
Confusion														
V														
P													PAIN	
U														
E Temperature °C	≥39.1°													
	38.1–39.0°													
	37.1–38.0°													
	36.1–37.0°			37		37					37			
	35.1–36.0°													
≤35.0°														
NEWS TOTAL														
Monitoring frequency														
Escalation of care Y/N														
Initials														

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Patient B observation chart

NEWS key		FULL NAME PATIENT B													
0 1 2 3		DATE OF BIRTH						DATE OF ADMISSION							
	DATE TIME	07:00		11:00		15:00								DATE TIME	
A+B Respirations Breaths/min	≥25							3							≥25
	21–24							2							21–24
	18–20														18–20
	15–17														15–17
	12–14		13		12		12								12–14
	9–11							1							9–11
≤8							3							≤8	
A+B SpO ₂ Scale 1 Oxygen saturation (%)	≥96		99											≥96	
	94–95				94			1						94–95	
	92–93						92	2						92–93	
	≤91							3						≤91	
SpO₂ Scale 2† Oxygen saturation (%) Use Scale 2 if target range is 88–92%, eg in hypertensive respiratory failure †ONLY use Scale 2 under the direction of a qualified clinician	≥97 on O ₂							3						≥97 on O ₂	
	95–96 on O ₂							2						95–96 on O ₂	
	93–94 on O ₂							1						93–94 on O ₂	
	≥93 on air													≥93 on air	
	88–92													88–92	
	86–87							1						86–87	
	84–85							2						84–85	
	≤83%							3						≤83%	
Air or oxygen?	A=Air													A=Air	
	O ₂ L/min							2						O ₂ L/min	
	Device	Non		Non		Non								Device	
C Blood pressure mmHg Score uses systolic BP only	≥220							3						≥220	
	201–219													201–219	
	181–200													181–200	
	161–180													161–180	
	141–160													141–160	
	121–140		130		134		135							121–140	
	111–120							1						111–120	
	101–110							2						101–110	
	91–100													91–100	
	81–90													81–90	
	71–80													71–80	
	61–70							3						61–70	
	51–60													51–60	
≤50													≤50		
C Pulse Beats/min	≥131							3						≥131	
	121–130							2						121–130	
	111–120													111–120	
	101–110													101–110	
	91–100						95	1						91–100	
	81–90		85		87									81–90	
	71–80													71–80	
	61–70													61–70	
	51–60													51–60	
	41–50							1						41–50	
31–40													31–40		
≤30							3						≤30		
D Consciousness Score for NEWS onset of confusion (no score if chronic)	Alert		ALERT		ALERT		ALERT							Alert	
	Confusion							3						Confusion	
	V													V	
	P													P	
U													U		
E Temperature °C	≥39.1°							2						≥39.1°	
	38.1–39.0°							1						38.1–39.0°	
	37.1–38.0°						37.1							37.1–38.0°	
	36.1–37.0°		36.9											36.1–37.0°	
	35.1–36.0°							1						35.1–36.0°	
≤35.0°							3						≤35.0°		
NEWS TOTAL														TOTAL	
Monitoring frequency														Monitoring	
Escalation of care Y/N														Escalation	
Initials														Initials	

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Patient C observation chart

NEWS key		FULL NAME PATIENT C																
0 1 2 3		DATE OF BIRTH						DATE OF ADMISSION										
		DATE	TIME	07:00	11:00	15:00							DATE	TIME				
A+B Respirations Breaths/min	≥25																	≥25
	21–24																	21–24
	18–20																	18–20
	15–17																	15–17
	12–14			13		15												12–14
	9–11																	9–11
	≤8																	≤8
A+B SpO ₂ Scale 1 Oxygen saturation (%)	≥96		99		99													≥96
	94–95																	94–95
	92–93																	92–93
	≤91																	≤91
SpO₂ Scale 2† Oxygen saturation (%) <small>Use Scale 2 if target range is 88–92%, eg in hypertensive respiratory failure</small>	≥97 on O ₂																	≥97 on O ₂
	95–96 on O ₂																	95–96 on O ₂
	93–94 on O ₂																	93–94 on O ₂
	≥93 on air																	≥93 on air
	88–92																	88–92
	86–87																	86–87
	84–85																	84–85
≤83%																	≤83%	
Air or oxygen?	A=Air																	A=Air
	O ₂ L/min																	O ₂ L/min
	Device	Non		Non		Non												Device
C Blood pressure mmHg <small>Score uses systolic BP only</small>	≥220																	≥220
	201–219																	201–219
	181–200																	181–200
	161–180																	161–180
	141–160																	141–160
	121–140																	121–140
	111–120			120		130					135							111–120
	101–110																	101–110
	91–100																	91–100
	81–90																	81–90
	71–80																	71–80
	61–70																	61–70
	51–60																	51–60
≤50																	≤50	
C Pulse Beats/min	≥131																	≥131
	121–130																	121–130
	111–120																	111–120
	101–110																	101–110
	91–100																	91–100
	81–90																	81–90
	71–80																	71–80
	61–70			65		72					70							61–70
	51–60																	51–60
	41–50																	41–50
	31–40																	31–40
	≤30																	≤30
	D Consciousness <small>Score for NEWS onset of confusion (no score if chronic)</small>	Alert		ALERT		ALERT												
Confusion																		Confusion
V																		V
P																		P
U																	U	
E Temperature °C	≥39.1°																	≥39.1°
	38.1–39.0°																	38.1–39.0°
	37.1–38.0°																	37.1–38.0°
	36.1–37.0°			36.4		37.1					37.3							36.1–37.0°
	35.1–36.0°																	35.1–36.0°
≤35.0°																	≤35.0°	
NEWS TOTAL																		TOTAL
Monitoring frequency																		Monitoring
Escalation of care Y/N																		Escalation
Initials																		Initials

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