



NEWS CHART AUDIT


Date/month audited:

Auditor:

BIRTHING/POSTNATAL (Circle)

	MRN	1	2	3	4	5	comments
0	Time of birth						
0	Time to first set of observations (minutes)						
0	Time to postnatal ward						
1	Newborn risk assessment attended?	Yes / No/ NA	Yes / No/NA	Yes / No/NA	Yes / No/NA	Yes / No/NA	
2	Risk assessment consistent with maternal history?	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
3	Does baby have any risk factors? (refer to newborn Risk Assessment/birth summary/progress notes) Note risk factors (remember hypoglycaemia!)	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
		• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	• • • •	
4	Completeness of core observations?	RR _/_ Sats _/_ HR _/_ Temp _/_	RR _/_ Sats _/_ HR _/_ Temp _/_	RR _/_ Sats _/_ HR _/_ Temp _/_	RR _/_ Sats _/_ HR _/_ Temp _/_	RR _/_ Sats _/_ HR _/_ Temp _/_	
5	Is total NEWS accurate? <u>What are the errors?</u>	_/_	_/_	_/_	_/_	_/_	
	1= addition						
	2= individual score error						
	3= individual score missing						
6	Frequency of observations as per risk assessment? If NO specify below	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
	Frequency required: Hourly OBS > 1.5 hrs between OBS						
	Frequency required: 4/24 OBS > 4.5 hrs between OBS						
	Frequency required: 8/24 OBS > 8.5 hrs between OBS						
7	Are all observations graphically represented?	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	
	Numbers/letters/ "x" / ticks						
	Dots not joined						
	BP not graphed						
8	NEWS ≥ 4/ MET criteria present? Record highest NEWS score/MET criteria.						

9	Correct level MO review the patient?	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No
10	Was time to review within correct time frame? (eg NEWS 4 requires review within 120 minutes)	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No
11	Did the frequency of observations increase according to Procedure requirements of ½ hourly for one hour, hourly for 4 hours, and 4/24 for 24 hours?	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No	Yes / No

Audit 5 patients -(1 observation chart each)	
0	How many minutes between the birth of the baby and first set of observations on NEWS chart?
1	Was a newborn risk assessment attended? (look for a tick on the newborn risk assessment chart or written notes regarding risk assessment)
2	Is the risk assessment consistent with Maternal history? Does the midwife documented risk factor match the risk factors noted by the auditor ?
3 a	Does baby have any risk factors? (refer to newborn Risk Assessment/ check the mothers record /birth summary/progress notes)
3 b	Note risk factors (eg GBS + mother, born before 37 weeks)
4	Count every vital sign as documented on the chart (for period you are auditing). Example if 8 RR's documented in 10 sets of vital signs – record as 8/10
5	NEWS that is not accurate is determined by establishing that an error has occurred. Whether one error or multiple errors identified within a single set of vital signs, that set of vital signs is deemed inaccurate. If there are errors, indicate the inaccurate vital signs. For example: if RR is inaccurate, list “RR” within the classifications available. Multiple errors may be identified. Please indicate all errors, in accordance within these classifications. Further guidance: If the total NEWS is missing, but it is determined that the NEWS would be “0,” then this is regarded as ACCURATE NEWS.
6	Correct frequency of observations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If baby is not ‘at risk’ observations are to be taken every 8 hours ○ If baby is ‘at risk”, observations are to be taken as per the Well Newborn Risk Assessment guideline.
7	Check that vital signs have been represented graphically, for example: Do not accept crosses, numbers, ticks or letters, or dots that are not joined. 
8	Is the NEWS ≥4 or more or breach MET criteria? If Yes indicate the highest NEWS/MET criterion and continue to answer shaded questions, if NO proceed to next patient. This applies to corrected NEWS ≥ 4 /MET criteria as determined by auditor as well as those documented by staff.
9	Refer to the progress notes, to determine the level of M.O. who reviewed the patient after the observed high NEWS/MET criteria. It is not necessary to scrutinise the review, but rather to indicate if that the level of review was appropriate to the escalation level required.
10	Correct time frames: NEWS 4-5 within 120 minutes/ NEWS 6-7 within 60 minutes/ NEWS ≥ 8 and MET criteria within 10 minutes
11	Did the frequency of observations increase according to Procedure requirements of ½ hourly for one hour, hourly for 4 hours, and 4/24 for 24 hours?