

NICU Patient Classification Tool (PCS)

Nights

Category	1 Point Each	2 Points Each	3 Points Each	4 Points Each
Respiratory	Room Air	-Hood -Stable Conventional Vent -O2 adjustments < 2 /hr. -Nasal Cannula -Vapotherm/ HFNC >2L	-CPAP(& for 24 hours post-removal) - SiPap - Unstable conventional vent -O2 adjustments >2/hr. -Chest tube no active leak	-HFOV -Vent 24 hours post-removal -NiO2 -Chest tubes with Active Air Leak
IV Monitoring	PIV-TKO or heplock	-1-2 Peripheral Lines		-PICC, Broviac, Umbilical Lines - > 3 solution changes in a 12 hr. period
Medications	1-2 oral/other meds in 12 hrs.	-3-4 oral/other meds in 24 hours - 1-2 IV meds in 12 hrs. - 1-2 boluses in 12 hrs.	- > 5 oral meds in 12 hrs. - 3-5 IV meds in 12hrs. - 3-5 boluses in 12 hrs.	- > 5 oral meds in 12 hrs. - > 5 boluses in 12 hrs. - Vasoactive drips - Sedation drips - Prostaglandin, insulin, or epinephrine drips
A/B/Desat	Resolving A's & B's with self-recovery	-Requires intervention < 1/hr. -Some A's & B's	-Requires intervention >1/hr. -Some A's & B's with some stimulation	- Frequent A's & B's requiring stimulation
Nutrition	Nipple Feed < 15 min, or gavage feed (70% of feeding is PO/ 30% gavage)	-Nipple feed < 15 min then gavage feed (50% of feeds are gavage feeds and PO/30-90% gavage feeding -Nurse assisted breastfeeding/ PO feed < 30 min. or 1-2 times in 12 hrs.	- All gavage (starting to nipple/ 90% gavage feeding) -NPO -Nurse assisted breastfeeding/ PO feeds for > 30 min or > 2 times in 12 hrs.	- Repogle to suction
TPN		TPN		
Teaching Support	1-2 hrs. in 12 hrs.	2-3 hrs. in 12 hrs.	> 3 hrs. in 12 hrs.	> 4 hrs. in 24 hrs.
Lab Draws	1-2 in 24 hrs.	1-2 labs in 12 hrs.	3-4 labs in 12 hrs.	4 labs in 12 hrs.
Transfusions			-1 transfusion in 12 hrs.	-2 transfusions in 12 hrs. -exchange transfusion
Infant Weight		< 1500 gms.	< 1000gms.	< 700 grams
Irritable Baby		Fussy baby	Abstinence score > 7	-Inconsolable baby
Procedures (MRI, CT, LP, PICC, Lines, etc...)			Assist with procedure < 1 hr. (list Procedure)	Assist procedure > 1 hr. (list procedure)
Other	Language Barrier	-phototherapy -wound care: monitor	-Ostomy care any type -wound care major	-New admission -Surgery-day for recovery
1:1				-Therapeutic hypothermia -Post code/cardiac arrest -Planned bereavement
Thermoregulation	Open Crib	Isolette	Radiant warmer	

Total Score _____ Classification _____ Initials _____ Date: _____
Shift _____

Low Acuity: 0-12 points
Medium Acuity: 13-17 points
High Acuity: 18-25 Points
> 26 points 1-1 status

Low: 1-4 ratio (Continuing Care)
Medium: 1:2-3 ratio (intermediate care)
High: 1:2 with low or medium as second patient

Patient Label

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