

Section: Division of Nursing

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GUIDELINE

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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NEWBORN SERVICES

(Scope)

TITLE: RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SCORE SHEET

PURPOSE: To record an ongoing evaluation and score of an infant with RDS.

NATURE OF FORM: Permanent

TARGETED POPULATION: Any infant admitted to the Nursery with RDS or any symptoms of respiratory distress.

PERSON RESPONSIBLE: RN caring for the infant.

CONTENT:	PROCEDURE STEPS:	KEY POINTS:
	1. ID sticker from infants admission sticker sheet. (#1)	
	2. Fill in the date at the top of the sheet. (#2)	
	3. Fill in the time the first set of vitals are started in the first column. (#3)	The pediatrician will order how often vitals and assessment are to be done. The RN may assess the infant more often as necessary, but at least every 15 minutes.
	4. Continue down the column filling in:	The O ₂ analyzer will be used at all times to measure O ₂ concentration.
	a. O ₂ concentration. (#4)	
	b. Sa O ₂ pulse oximeter. (#5)	All infants with O ₂ with have Sa O ₂ measured with continuous pulse oximeter in place.
	c. Humidity. (#6)	In Humidity Column, write "Mist."
	d. isolette or hood temp. (#7)	A thermometer must be in hood or isolette to measure the temperature.
	e. Rate the RDS score as 0, 1, or 2 (following the chart at the bottom of the page.) (#8)	Do the RDS score every time vital signs and assessment are done--as ordered by physician or as an RN evaluation as necessary.