

Neonatal Abstinence Scoring System

Date: _____ Weight: _____

System	Signs and Symptoms	Score	Time												Comments				
			A	M									P	M					
Central Nervous System Disturbances	Excessive high-pitched or other cry	2																	
	Continuous high-pitched or other cry	3																	
	Sleeps < 1 hour after feeding	3																	
	Sleeps < 2 hours after feeding	2																	
	Sleeps < 3 hours after feeding	1																	
	Hyperactive Moro reflex	2																	
	Markedly Hyperactive Moro reflex	3																	
	Mild tremors disturbed	1																	
	Moderate/severe tremors disturbed	2																	
	Mild tremors undisturbed	3																	
	Moderate/severe tremors undisturbed	4																	
	Increased muscle tone	2																	
Excoriation	1																		
Myoclonic jerk	3																		
Generalized convulsions	5																		
Metabolic/Vasomotor Respiratory Disturbances	Sweating	1																	
	Fever < 38.4° (37.2° to 38.2° C)	1																	
	Fever > 38.4° C	2																	
	Frequent yawning (> 3 in ½ hour)	1																	
	Mottling	1																	
	Nasal stuffiness	1																	
	Sneezing (> 3 in ½ hour)	1																	
	Nasal Flaring	2																	
	Respiratory rate > 60/minute	1																	
Respiratory rate > 60/min & retractions	2																		
Gastro-intestinal Disturbances	Excessive sucking	1																	
	Poor feeding	2																	
	Regurgitation	2																	
	Projectile vomiting	3																	
	Loose stools	2																	
	Watery stools	3																	
	TOTAL SCORE																		
	INITIALS OF SCORER																		

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome Score used for the assessment of infants undergoing neonatal abstinence. Evaluator should check signs or symptoms observed at various time intervals. Add scores for total at each evaluation.

Adapted from Finnegan, L.P., Kaltenbach, K., "The Assessment and Management of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Primary Pediatric Care", 3rd edition, Hoekelman & Nelson (eds.), C.V. Mosby Company, St. Louise, MO, pp. 1367-1378, 1992.

PHARMACOLOGY	R	S	D	T	S	D	T	S	D	T	S	D	T	S	D	T	S	D	T
S-Status; D-Dose; T-Time																			
Coding:																			
(+) Initiation																			
(=) Maintenance																			
(↑) Increase																			
(↓) Decrease																			
(—) Discontinuation																			