

NEWBORN LIFE SUPPORT - CLINICAL GUIDELINE NLS FLOWCHART

All staff have a responsibility to prepare, check, and be familiar with using any resuscitation equipment available. Community births should have an area set up with resuscitation equipment for any baby born in unexpected poor condition. Hospital births should have a checked resuscitaire and emergency neonatal resuscitation equipment available. Alert Neonatal Team as detailed in Section 2.

For Emergency Neonatal help dial 2222, state 'neonatal emergency' and your exact location

Term baby delivery

Resuscitaire pressures 30/4

Blender set to 21% oxygen (air)

Mask and laryngoscope blade size 0 and 1

Aim to delay cord clamping Keep warm

Preterm Delivery

Resuscitaire pressures 20-25/5

Blender set to 30% oxygen

Mask and laryngoscope blade size 0 or 00

Aim to delay cord clamping

Plastic bag for thermal support <32 weeks/≤1.5kg

Give antenatal steroids and magnesium sulphate as indicated

Call Consultant in addition to NNU team if < 27 weeks gestation

Assess heart rate and breathing at birth

If HR over 100, delay cord clamping

Dry and reassess, apply hat, keep warm, if available, use pulse oximetry to guide oxygenation/supplemental 02 use

Refer to Resuscitation council 2015 Newborn Life Support algorithm http://resus.org.uk

Complete documentation concurrently or as soon as possible Complete a neonatal transfer sheet for all babies transferred to NNU

Complete a Datix incident report for all unexpected neonatal admissions Keep parents updated



1. Aim/Purpose of this Guideline

This guideline applies to obstetric, midwifery, paediatric, and neonatal staff who may be involved in the resuscitation or stabilisation of the newborn in the hospital or community setting. Its aim is for all staff to follow the same principles and practice of resuscitation. Emphasis is placed on the need to anticipate potential problems and to call for expert assistance as early as possible.

This guideline identifies where equipment is located and the process for ensuring it is clean, checked and ready for use and how and when to call for the support of the neonatal team.

The purpose of the guideline is to support the specialist skill of newborn resuscitation which is required by all staff who may be attendant at birth and is written in accordance with current Resuscitation Council UK guidance: Newborn Life Support: Resuscitation at Birth 3rd edition (2010).

2. The Guidance

2.1. Staff roles and responsibilities

Consultant Paediatrician:

It is their responsibility to attend emergencies when required and to lead advanced resuscitation procedures or give advice.

Neonatal Team: (ST1-8/ANNP).

It is their responsibility to anticipate the need for extra help e.g. extreme prematurity, babies with known perinatal compromise/anomalies and to inform the NNU of an impending admission. All staff at these grades should be trained in resuscitation of the newborn.

The most senior member of the neonatal team is responsible for ceasing resuscitation measures where further treatment is felt to be futile. Following a neonatal resuscitation, parents must be seen and updated regarding the treatment and condition of the baby as soon as feasibly possible by a senior member of the paediatric team.

Obstetric Team:

It is their responsibility to liaise with the NNU regarding the possible or expected birth of any baby known or thought to be likely to need resuscitation or stabilisation at birth. Discussions include plans for delivery and staff requirements at delivery.

Midwives:

It is the responsibility of midwives to identify any woman in labour whose baby/babies may require initial support and to contact the on call SHO/ANNP in a timely fashion. They are responsible for that checking emergency equipment is ready for use. For babies born in unexpected poor condition or prematurely, the urgency of the call needs to be conveyed indicating gestation, reason for the call



and location of the baby. Midwives should initiate treatment for sick babies whilst awaiting support from the neonatal team or, if in a community setting, whilst waiting for an ambulance.

All registered staff working in Maternity Services:

All registered staff, working within maternity and neonatal services, who care for newborns in the hospital or community setting should be competent to perform basic newborn life support as required. Initial training on induction will be provided to all appropriate groups of staff and updated as per RCHT Maternity services training needs analysis.

Staff who are newborn life support providers (NLS) following Resuscitation Council UK assessment are deemed competent for the time that the qualification remains valid. Staff who are accredited Resuscitation Council Instructors will be deemed competent whilst their accreditation is valid.

2.2. Resuscitation Equipment (See Appendix 3 Hospital, Appendix 4 Community)

- Each resuscitaire has a list of all required equipment. At each routine check the resuscitaire should be cleaned, checked for completeness and to be in full working order.
- Any deficiencies identified with the equipment, that cannot be immediately rectified, should be reported to the delivery suite coordinator/midwife in charge.
- Any resuscitaire that is out of use will be recorded on the delivery suite white board and handed over at each shift change during the safety briefing.
- If a resuscitaire is out of use on either Wheal Rose or Wheal Fortune it will be replaced with a resuscitaire from Delivery Suite until it is back in full working order.
- If a resuscitaire is out of use in the community setting a risk assessment must be undertaken. Suitable alternative equipment supplied or births suspended in the setting.
- Before each anticipated use, check heat, light, air/oxygen and suction.
- Every resuscitaire should be checked at the start of every shift.
- Following each use, clean and replace any used items and check to ensure the resuscitaire is in full working order.
- It is the responsibility of the individual to ensure they are trained and updated in the use of any medical devices they are likely to need to use. All medical devices training must be entered on the relevant training database.

2.3. Births requiring neonatal team member attendance

- Births<37 weeks completed gestation
- Emergency caesarean sections
- Instrumental deliveries
- Meconium stained liquor
- Vaginal breech deliveries
- Any baby where the need for resuscitation is anticipated, acutely or antenatally



2.4. Emergency On Call Neonatal Team

Call 2222 and ask for the NEONATAL TEAM and specify your EXACT LOCATION.

The Neonatal Emergency Team should be called in the event of:

- Need for resuscitation at birth with no member of neonatal team present at delivery
- Neonatal Team member call for help in new-born life support setting
- Postnatal neonatal collapse

The Neonatal Team will consist of:

- Neonatal Registrar
- Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner or SHO
- Neonatal Nurse

2.5. On Call Neonatal Team

SHO/ ANNP: Available on site 24hrs a day	Bleep via Bleep 3217 , the number is displayed on delivery suite white board
Neonatal Registrar: Available on site 09.00 hours -17.00 Oncall.	The neonatal registrars are contacted via Bleep 3216 , the number is displayed on delivery suite white board
Neonatal Consultant: Available Monday – Friday 09.00 hours – 17.00 hours	Call via main hospital switchboard
Paediatric Consultants: On call at home (30 minutes response time) between 17.00 hours -09.00 hours and weekends and bank holidays	Call via main hospital switchboard

2.6. Resuscitation on Wheal Fortune/Wheal Rose Wards

If a baby requires resuscitation they should be taken to the resuscitaire on the ward. Call 2222 Neonatal Emergency specifying location. The midwife should initiate newborn life support and continue until neonatal assistance arrives.

2.7. Transfer of the sick newborn to the neonatal unit from community birth

Request paramedic ambulance via **999** emergency call. In a full resuscitation situation, communication **should be made directly** with the delivery suite coordinator who will liaise with the on call neonatal team and NNU to agree the most appropriate place for admission/ambulance destination. This could be direct to Delivery Suite **or** NNU for on-going resuscitation/stabilisation. If two midwives are present the midwife undertaking the resuscitation should escort the baby with the ambulance crew and document events on arrival. If only one midwife present and the woman requires care by the midwife, the resuscitation of the baby should be handed over to the paramedic team.



2.8. Transfer from Emergency Department or other areas of the hospital

The on call neonatal resuscitation team should be contacted via hospital switchboard, the baby will be stabilised then transferred to neonatal unit using the transport incubator.

2.9. Unexpected admissions to the NNU/ unexpected poor birth condition including community births

Delivery Suite co-coordinator to ensure NNU is alerted immediately of any pending delivery likely to need neonatal support or NNU admission. Any baby whose admission to NNU has not been anticipated and the need for resuscitation identified by the condition of the baby at birth, should be reported as a clinical incident via the electronic online reporting system (Datix) as per the trigger list.

2.10. Resuscitation of the Newborn (see also 2.14 & 2.15 for management of meconium and prematurity)

- Babies who are compromised at delivery should have immediate cord clamping and transfer to the resuscitaire/prepared area then dried, covered with a dry towel, and placed in a neutral head position with assessment of their airway, breathing, heart rate and tone following the 2015 NLS algorithm (See Appendix 5). It is essential to call for help early (See section 2.4).
- Where possible pulse oximetry should be used. Probe attachment to the right hand or arm should provide oxygen saturation readings within 90 seconds.
- For term infants, air should be used initially for resuscitation. Inflation breaths require sustained pressure of 2-3 seconds at 30cm H₂ 0 PIP to aerate the lungs with 4cm PEEP. If, despite effective ventilation (with chest movement seen) oxygenation/ central colour (ideally guided by pulse oximetry) remains unacceptable, a higher oxygen concentration should be used.
- For **preterm** infants use a PIP setting of 20-25cm pressure with 5cm PEEP with oxygen flow of 21-30% (Resuscitation Council 2015).
- In the absence of pulse oximetry, a baby who remains dusky/cyanosed/ heart rate under 100, after chest movement seen, oxygen should be administered. No current evidence supports a particular oxygen concentration but where blending is available, increasing in 25% (ratio of 0² to air flow) increments is reasonable, otherwise use 100% oxygen in place of air. Reduce oxygen concentration until infant is pink and spontaneously breathing without support.
- Reassessment of the baby should occur every 30seconds during NLS



resuscitation, focusing on the rising heart rate as the primary guide to successful resuscitation, aiming for ≥100bpm. If the heart rate responds but the baby is still not breathing, give ventilation breaths (1 second duration) at 30 per minute until senior review or normal breathing is established.

If the heart rate remains very slow, ≤ 60 despite chest wall movement, give 30 seconds ventilation breaths with 100% oxygen, reassess, if still ≤ 60, commence cardiac compressions (Resuscitation Council 2015)

2.11. Advanced Resuscitation (See Appendix 5 for Equipment)

- If appropriately skilled personnel are available intubation or laryngeal mask placement can be used to secure/establish an open airway.
- Laryngeal mask Size 1 can be used for babies over 33 weeks/ 2kg weight.

2.12. Indications for intubation include:

- To clear matter obstructing the airway e.g. meconium, blood clot, vernix
- To protect/support the airway
- For surfactant or adrenaline drug administration
- For anticipated prolonged respiratory support

2.13. The use of drugs in neonatal resuscitation

Drugs are rarely needed and should only be used if there is no significant cardiac output despite effective lung inflation and chest compressions.

- Optimal venous access is via Umbilical Venous Catheter (UVC)
- Community paramedic/ED may choose to access via intraosseous needle
- Initial blood aspirated should optimally be analysed for blood gas and glucose, plus FBC, blood group and blood spot.
- Adrenaline: 1:10,000 solution IV dose 10mcg/kg (0.1ml / kg) If not effective doses of up to 30mcg/kg (0.3ml/kg) can be used. Adrenaline doses can be repeated after 2 – 3 minutes
- **Sodium Bicarbonate:** 4.2% solution 2-4 ml/kg (e.g. 1-2 mmols/kg) or 8.4% solution diluted 1:1 with intravenous water or dextrose.
- **Sodium Chloride 0.9%** 10ml/kg for volume support if cardiac output remains poor and hypovolaemic shock is suspected, can be repeated
- **Dextrose 10%**: 2.5ml/kg for hypoglycaemia
- Naloxone 400mcg/ml; Naloxone is not a drug of resuscitation but if the baby remains apnoeic once the airway has been established, heart rate over 100bpm and mother received opiates within 4 hours of baby's delivery consider 200mcg.stat dose IM. NB. If the mother is opiate dependent Naloxone should be given with caution as it may cause acute withdrawal/seizures in the baby.

2.14. Meconium

• If meconium is seen in the liquor and baby is not compromised at birth with heart rate over 100 and an open airway normal care can continue,



including deferred cord clamping.

• If the baby does not breathe at delivery/floppy or heart rate <100, avoid stimulation, transfer to the resuscitaire/prepared area and inspect the airway. Apply suction with large bore catheter/yankauer sucker to remove any meconium seen before giving inflation breaths. If meconium remains copious after suctioning/intubation and direct suction, commence inflation breaths within1minute to avoid hypoxia.

2.15. Prematurity

Every effort should be made to ensure a senior grade from the Neonatal Team paediatrician/neonatologist is at the delivery of babies born under 30 weeks gestation. Premature babies under 32 weeks are more likely to lose body heat and should be placed into a plastic bag, up to their neck, with a plastic clamp on a long cord. The head should be dried, hat applied and, when available, pulse oximetry probe attached to right wrist. Inflation pressures are initially set at lower levels (20-25cms peak pressures, 5cms positive end expiratory pressure) Oxygen flow setting at 21-30% (NLS 2015)

If the baby is spontaneously breathing, consider mask PEEP early If intubation is required, surfactant should be administered promptly, preferably within 15 minutes (see appendix 6 for guidance)

Cord Gas Analysis

Cord blood should be taken and analysed at birth, for any baby where there have been concerns of compromise during labour or the baby is born unexpectedly in poor condition. This is not achievable in the community setting. Placental weight/swab/histology may also be required.

2.16. Documentation and Record Keeping

Clear, detailed, factual notes that are legible, dated and signed should be made as soon as possible after the resuscitation. Where possible contemporaneous documentation should be made whilst the resuscitation is in progress. Detail should aim to include:

- Who was present at delivery and immediate concerns
- When further assistance was requested
- When any further assistance arrived
- Heart rate at birth and when it first exceeded 100bpm
- Whether gasping respirations preceded onset of breathing and for how long this was seen
- When baby started to breathe regularly
- Respiratory assistance given and timing of any intervention
- Whether cardiac massage was given and duration
- · Any drugs administered with times and route
- Cord gas analysis
- Detail of information given to parents



3. Monitoring compliance and effectiveness

	The second of the state of the second of the
Element to be	The audit will take into account record keeping by obstetric,
monitored	anaesthetic and paediatric doctors, midwives, nurse, students
	and maternity support workers
	The results will be inputted onto an excel spreadsheet
	The audit will be registered with the Trust's Audit Department
Lead	Maternity Risk Management Midwife
Tool	 Was an equipment check list attached to each resuscitaire in all maternity care settings
	For Delivery Suite: was the individual location identified and the check signed for in the ward diary
	Was the weekly check of the emergency paediatric trolley signed for in the book on the trolley
	Wheal Rose: Was the daily check signed for in the ward diary
	Wheal Fortune: Was the daily check signed for in the book on
	 the resuscitaire Penrice: Was the daily check signed for in the book on the resuscitaire
	Helston & St Mary's: Was the weekly check signed for in the book on the resuscitaire
	If resuscitation equipment not available in any clinical area, was
	this included in the safety briefing and a plan/risk assessment in place for alternative arrangements
Frequency	Every 3 months the team leader/ward manager will complete
Troqueries	the above audit and address any deficiencies identified
Reporting arrangements	A formal report of the results will be received annually at the Maternity Risk Management and Clinical Audit Forum, as per the audit plan
	 During the process of the audit if compliance is below 75% or other major deficiencies identified, this will be highlighted at the next Maternity Risk Management and Clinical Audit Forum and an action plan agreed
Acting on recommendations and Lead(s)	 Any deficiencies identified on the annual report will be discussed at the Maternity Risk Management and Clinical Audit Forum and an action plan developed
(-)	Action leads will be identified and a time frame for the action to be completed by
	The action plan will be monitored by the Maternity Risk Manager until all actions complete
Change in	Required changes to practice will be identified and actioned
practice and	within a time frame agreed on the action plan
lessons to be	A lead member of the forum will be identified to take each
shared	
Silaica	 change forward where appropriate The results of the audits will be distributed to all staff through the risk management newsletter/audit forum as per the action
	plan



4. Equality and Diversity

4.1. This document complies with the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust service Equality and Diversity statement which can be found in the <u>'Equality, Diversity & Human Rights Policy'</u> or the <u>Equality and Diversity website</u>.

4.2. Equality Impact Assessment

The Initial Equality Impact Assessment Screening Form is at Appendix 2.



Appendix 1: Governance Information

Document Title	Newborn Life support (NLS) – Clinical Guideline				
Date Issued/Approved:	16/06/2017				
Date Valid From:	01/08/2017				
Date Valid To:	01/08/2020				
Directorate / Department responsible (author/owner):	Judith Clegg, ANNP, Neonatal Unit Obs & Gynae Directorate				
Contact details:	01872 252667				
Brief summary of contents	Newborn Life Support guidance for Hospital and Community settings, staff responsibilities and equipment required				
Suggested Keywords:	Neonate, Newborn, Neonatal, life support, resuscitation, NLS, Midwifery, pulse oximetry				
Target Audience	RCHT PCH CFT KCCG ✓				
Executive Director responsible for Policy:	Medical Director				
Date revised:	l6th June 2017				
This document replaces (exact title of previous version):	Newborn Life SupportClinical Guideline				
Approval route (names of committees)/consultation:	Maternity Guideline Group Obs and Gynae Directorate Divisional Board				
Divisional Manager confirming approval processes	Head of Midwifery				
Name and Post Title of additional signatories	None required				
Signature of Executive Director giving approval	{Original Copy Signed}				
Publication Location (refer to Policy on Policies – Approvals and Ratification):	Internet & Intranet ✓ Intranet Only				
Document Library Folder/Sub Folder	Clinical/Midwifery and Obstetrics				



Links to key external standards	
Related Documents:	 Newborn Life Support (2015): Resuscitation at Birth 4th edition. London: Resuscitation Council (UK) Safer Childbirth (2007): Minimum Standards for the Organisation and Delivery of Care in Labour. London: RCOG Press. Gibbs J. Newson T. et.al. (1989) Naloxone Hazard in infant of opioid abuser LANCET 2:159-60 CESDI (2003) Project 27/28 An enquiry into the quality of care and its effect on the survival of babies born at 27-28 weeks London: HMSO Sudden Unexpected Postnatal collapse in the first week of life Guideline (2011) March BAPM endorsed. British Paediatric Surveillance Unit RCPCH
Training Need Identified?	Yearly, mandatory training requirement for obstetric and paediatric staff

Version Control Table

Date	Version No	Summary of Changes	Changes Made by (Name and Job Title)
09/2009	V1.0		Judith Clegg, ANNP Jan Clarkson, Jane Pascoe, Midwife Delivery Suite
09/2012	V2.0	Updated equipment, updated new National NLS Guidance, separated from admission to NNU guideline	Judith Clegg, ANNP
5/9/2013	V3.0	Updated equipment requirements, contact telephone numbers and guidance for community obstetric staff, section 2.9	Judith Clegg, ANNP



3 rd July 2014	V4.0	Updated Emergency Bleep Numbers Neonatal Emergency Group Bleep 3100 Neonatal Registrar Bleep 3216 Advanced Neonatal Nurse Practitioner or SHO Bleep 3217 Neonatal Nurse bleep 3218 Updated In the event of neonatal collapse, call 2222 and ask for the NEONATAL TEAM and specify your EXACT LOCATION.	Elizabeth Anderson Practice Development Midwife
16 th June 2017	V5.0	Updated Resuscitation Council 2015 NLS algorithm amendment re. 30 seconds ventilation breaths prior to cardiac compressions. Addition of flow chart	Judith Clegg ANNP Neonatal Unit

All or part of this document can be released under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

This document is to be retained for 10 years from the date of expiry.

This document is only valid on the day of printing

Controlled Document

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Appendix 2. Initial Equality Impact Assessment Form

Name of Name of the strategy / policy /proposal / service function to be assessed (hereafter referred to as <i>policy</i>) (Provide brief description): NEW-BORN LIFE SUPPORT CLINICAL GUIDELINE				
Directorate and service area: Obs & Gynae Directorate		Is this a new or existing Policy Existing		
Name of individual com assessment: Judith Cle	. •	Telephone: 01872 252667		
1. Policy Aim* Who is the strategy / policy / proposal / service function aimed at?	To inform obstetric, midwifery, paediatric, neonatal staff and Community Midwives/GPs of the best evidenced based approach to resuscitation at birth			
2. Policy Objectives*	To ensure optimul	m newborn life support		
3. Policy – intended Outcomes*	Best possible outcome for sick new-born babies			
4. *How will you measure the outcome?	Compliance Monitoring Tool			
5. Who is intended to benefit from the policy?	Newborn babies a	and their parents		
6a) Is consultation required with the workforce, equality groups, local interest groups etc. around this policy?	No			
b) If yes, have these *groups been consulted?	NA			
C). Please list any groups who have been consulted about this procedure.	N/A			

7. The Impact					
Please complete the follo	Please complete the following table.				
Are there concerns that the policy could have differential impact on:					
Equality Strands: Yes No Rationale for Assessment / Existing Evidence					



Age		Х	All newborn babies					
Sex (male, female, trans- gender / gender reassignment)		X	All newborn babies					
Race / Ethnic communities /groups		Х	All newborn babies					
Disability - learning disability, physical disability, sensory impairment and mental health problems		X	All newborn babies					
Religion / other beliefs		X	All newborn babies					
Marriage and civil partnership		X	All newborn babies					
Pregnancy and maternity		Х	All newborn babies					
Sexual Orientation, Bisexual, Gay, heterosexual, Lesbian		X	All newborn babies					
	es" in evider entifie	any colunce of the	mn above and ere being consultation requiring consultation	ı- this				
8. Please indicate if a full of					Yes		No X	
9. If you are not recommending a Full Impact assessment please explain why.								
N/A								
Signature of policy develo Judith Clegg	per / le	ead man	ager / director Da	ate of	completion	on and	submissio	n
Names and signatures of members carrying out the Screening Assessment		1. Dr Pa	ul Munyard					

Keep one copy and send a copy to the Human Rights, Equality and Inclusion Lead, c/o Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust, Human Resources Department, Knowledge Spa, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3HD

A summary of the results will be published on the Trust's web site.



Appendix 3: Neonatal Resuscitation Equipment Hospital Setting

Ward / Area	Equipment/ Location	Checks
Delivery Suite	Resuscitaires:	Daily checks:
	D/S Corridor	 Individual
	D/S Theatre	locations
	High Risk Delivery	identified and
	Rooms, 7,10 & 11	check signed for
		in ward diary
		Other checks
		Before use if
		anticipated
		After Use
Delivery Suite	Paediatric Emergency	Weekly check:
	Trolley:	Signed for in
	Stored in D/S	check book on
	Store Room	the trolley
		Other checks
		Before use if
		anticipated
1871		After Use
Wheal fortune	Resuscitaire:	Daily check:
	Located in the	Signed for in
	Neonatal	book on
	Treatment/Drs	Resuscitaire Other checks
	Room	
Wheal Rose	Resuscitaire:	After Use Deily sheeks
wnear Rose		Daily check:
	Located in the	Signed for in word diam
	corridor by Midwives office	ward diary Other checks
	iviidwives office	
		After Use



Appendix 4: Neonatal Resuscitation Equipment Community Setting

Area	Equipment / Location	Checks
Penrice Birth Centre	Resuscitaire:	Daily check:
	 Kept in room 	 Signed for in
	opposite the	book on
	delivery rooms	Resuscitaire
		Other checks
		 Prior to and
		following use
Helston Birth Centre	Resuscitaire:	Weekly check:
	 Kept in birth room 	 Signed for in
		book on
		Resuscitaire
		Other checks
		Prior to and
		following use
St Mary's hospital,	Resuscitaire	Weekly check:
Isles of Scilly	 Kept in birth room 	Signed for in
		book on
		Resuscitaire
		Other checks
		Prior to and following upo
		following use
Home Birth Equipment	Each community	All Items Single Patient
Tiome Birtii Equipment	midwife carries:	use and must be
	Single use 500ml	replaced following use.
	Bag / Mask valve	replaced fellowing doc.
	Masks x 2 size 1	
	size 0	
	Guedel Airway	

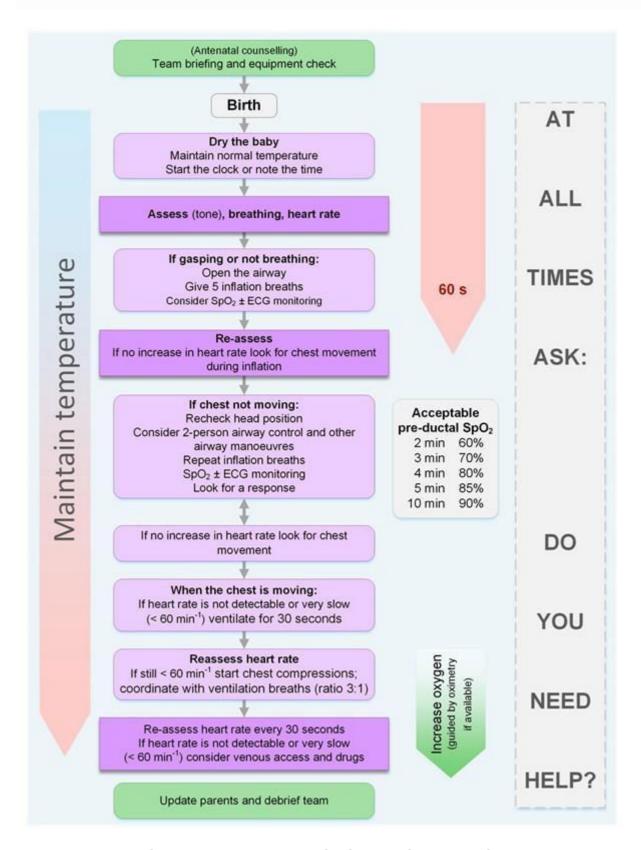


Appendix 5: NLS Algorithm ©
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Resuscitation Council (UK)





Appendix 6: Advanced Resuscitation Equipment Guide



	Under 1kg/≤28 weeks	Under 2kg/ ≤32 weeks	Over 2kg to term
Put into plastic bag for thermal control	\checkmark	V	-
Airway size	000	00	0 -1
Laryngeal mask	Do not use	Do not use	Size 1 (pink)
Laryngoscope Blade size	00	0	0 - 1
ET Tube Diameter and approximate	2.5mm	3.0mm	3.0 - 3.5mm [4.0mm post term/over 4kg]
length	6.5-7cm	7.5-8cm	8.0-9.5cm