

NEUROLOGICAL EXAM TO EVALUATE CANDIDACY FOR THERAPEUTIC HYPOTHERMIA

Circle findings for each domain.			
Patient is eligible for therapeutic hypothermia if 3 or more domains with findings in columns 2 or 3.			
Domain	1	2	3
Seizures	None	Common: focal or multifocal seizures <i>Note: If the infant is < 6 hours old and meets gestation, weight, and blood gas criteria and has a witnessed seizure, patient is eligible for therapeutic hypothermia regardless of the rest of these exam findings.</i>	Uncommon (excluding decerebration) Or Frequent seizures
Level of consciousness	Normal Hyperalert	Lethargic Decreased activity in an infant who is aroused and responsive • Can be irritable to external stimuli (i.e., touch)	Stuporous / Comatose Not able to arouse and unresponsive to external stimuli
Spontaneous activity when awake or aroused	Active Vigorous, doesn't stay in one position	Less than active, not vigorous	No activity whatsoever
Posture	Moving around and does not maintain only one position	Distal flexion, complete extension, or "frog-legged" position	Decerebrate with or without stimulation (all extremities extended)
Tone	Normal – resists passive motion Hypertonic, jittery	Hypotonic or floppy, either focal or general	Completely flaccid like a rag doll
Primitive reflexes	Suck: Vigorously sucks finger or ET tube Moro – normal: Extension of limbs followed by flexion with stimulus	Suck: Weak Moro: Incomplete	Suck: Completely absent Moro: Completely absent
Autonomic system	Pupils: • Normal size (~1/3 iris diameter) • Reactive to light Heart rate: Normal, > 100 bpm Respirations: • Regular spontaneous breathing	Pupils: • Constricted (<3 mm estimated), but react to light Heart rate: • Bradycardia (< 100 bpm, variable up to 120 bpm) Respirations: • Periodic, irregular breathing effort	Pupils: • Skew gaze, fixed, dilated, not reactive to light Heart rate: • Variable, inconsistent rate, irregular heart rate, may be bradycardic Respirations: • Completely apneic, requiring positive pressure ventilation (PPV) and/or ET intubation and ventilation

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