

# Maternity Early Warning Score (MEWS)

Hospital sticker with patient details

| MEWS score                                                                                                                                                   |           | 0    | 1 | 2 | A score for each vital sign is required at each entry |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|---|---|-------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|------|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                              |           |      |   |   | DATE                                                  |  |  |  |   |   | DATE |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
|                                                                                                                                                              |           |      |   |   | TIME                                                  |  |  |  |   |   | TIME |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| <b>Respirations</b><br>Breaths/min                                                                                                                           | >=25      |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | >=25              |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 22-24     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 22-24             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 18-21     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 18-21             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 13-17     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 0 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 13-17             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 9-12      |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 9-12              |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 7-8       |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 7-8               |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <=6       |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <=6               |
| <b>SpO<sub>2</sub></b><br>Oxygen saturation (%)                                                                                                              | >=95      |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 0 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | >=95              |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 93-94     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 93-94             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <=92      |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <=92              |
| <b>Temperature</b><br>°C                                                                                                                                     | >=37.5    |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | >=37.5            |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 37.3-37.4 |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 37.3-37.4         |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 36.8-37.2 |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 36.8-37.2         |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 36.2-36.7 |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 0 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 36.2-36.7         |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 35.7-36.1 |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 35.7-36.1         |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <=35.6    |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <=35.6            |
| <b>Pulse</b><br>Beats/min                                                                                                                                    | >=131     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | >=131             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 122-130   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 122-130           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 113-121   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 113-121           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 99-112    |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 99-112            |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 86-98     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 0 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 86-98             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 71-85     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 71-85             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 63-70     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 63-70             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <=62      |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <=62              |
| <b>Pulse - from 48 hours post birth ONLY</b><br>Beats/min                                                                                                    | >=108     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | >=108             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 99-107    |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 99-107            |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 85-98     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 85-98             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 71-84     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 0 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 71-84             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 58-70     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 58-70             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 51-57     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 51-57             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <=50      |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <=50              |
| <b>Systolic blood pressure</b><br>mmHg                                                                                                                       | >=175     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | >=175             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 160-174   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 160-174           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 145-159   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 145-159           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 136-144   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 136-144           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 121-135   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 121-135           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 111-120   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 0 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 111-120           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 101-110   |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 101-110           |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 94-100    |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 94-100            |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 77-93     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 77-93             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 61-76     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 61-76             |
|                                                                                                                                                              |           | <=60 |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   | 2 |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| <b>Diastolic blood pressure</b><br>mmHg                                                                                                                      | >=110     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | >=110             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 97-109    |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 97-109            |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 89-96     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 89-96             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 80-88     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 80-88             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 70-79     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 0 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 70-79             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 62-69     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 62-69             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | 57-61     |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 1 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | 57-61             |
|                                                                                                                                                              | <=56      |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  | 2 |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <=56              |
| <b>MEWS TOTAL</b>                                                                                                                                            |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <b>MEWS TOTAL</b> |
| <b>Additional concerns - Please see overleaf for additional concern table. If one or more additional concern is present, consider escalation and review.</b> |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Healthcare professional concerned                                                                                                                            |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Woman/family concerned                                                                                                                                       |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Significant additional therapies (e.g. Oxygen)                                                                                                               |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Severe Hypertension (greater than or equal to 160/110mmHg)                                                                                                   |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Increased pain (analgesic requirement)                                                                                                                       |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Significant vaginal bleeding                                                                                                                                 |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Reduced urine output                                                                                                                                         |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| Altered level of consciousness /responsiveness                                                                                                               |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |
| <b>Monitoring frequency</b>                                                                                                                                  |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <b>Monitoring</b> |
| <b>Escalation of care YES/NO</b>                                                                                                                             |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <b>Escalation</b> |
| <b>Initials</b>                                                                                                                                              |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  | <b>Initials</b>   |
| Refer to back page for thresholds and triggers                                                                                                               |           |      |   |   |                                                       |  |  |  |   |   |      |  |  |  |  |  |                   |

# Maternity Early Warning Score (MEWS)

Taking the total MEWS score generated, escalate according to the threshold and trigger table.

|            |                                               | Score  |           |           |           |        |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
|            |                                               | 2      | 1         | 0         | 1         | 2      |
| Vital Sign | Respirations<br>Breaths/min                   | <=6    | 7-8       | 9-21      | 22-24     | >=25   |
|            | SpO <sub>2</sub><br>Oxygen saturation (%)     | <=92   | 93-94     | >=95      | -         | -      |
|            | Temperature<br>°C                             | <=35.6 | 35.7-36.1 | 36.2-37.2 | 37.3-37.4 | >=37.5 |
|            | Pulse<br>Beats/min                            | <=62   | 63-70     | 71-112    | 113-121   | >=122  |
|            | Pulse (from 48 hours post birth)<br>Beats/min | <=50   | 51-57     | 58-98     | 99-107    | >=108  |
|            | Systolic blood pressure<br>mmHg               | <=93   | 94-100    | 101-135   | 136-144   | >=145  |
|            | Diastolic blood pressure<br>mmHg              | <=56   | 57-61     | 62-88     | 89-96     | >=97   |



| Additional concerns                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>If one or more of these additional concerns are present, consider:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increasing the frequency of observations to a minimum of every 30 minutes</li> <li>2. Escalate in line with a low-medium level of concern even if MEWS less than 2</li> <li>3. Where MEWS is greater than 2 raising the level of concern to the next category.</li> </ol> | <p>Healthcare professional concerned<br/>Woman/family concerned<br/>Significant additional therapies (e.g. Oxygen)<br/>Severe Hypertension (greater than or equal to 160/110mmHg)<br/>Increased pain (+/- or analgesic requirement)<br/>Significant vaginal bleeding<br/>Reduced urine output<br/>Decreased level of consciousness/responsiveness</p> |



| Thresholds and triggers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                             |                                                                 |                                                                                                      |                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The grade of medical team member indicated as the primary contact for each level of clinical concern is a guide and may need to be adapted depending on the local skill mix within that care setting or organisation</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                             |                                                                 |                                                                                                      |                                                                                                             |
| Level of concern                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Low                                         | Low-medium                                                      | Medium                                                                                               | High                                                                                                        |
| MEWS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 0-1                                         | 2-4                                                             | 5-7                                                                                                  | 8 or more                                                                                                   |
| Primary escalation & response (Use SBAR framework)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                             | Review by midwife/nurse in charge                               | Urgent review by midwife/nurse in charge                                                             | Immediate review by midwife/nurse in charge                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                             | Request review by ST1/2 or equivalent                           | Urgent review by ST3+ or equivalent and consultant made aware of plan<br>Consider anaesthetic review | Immediate review by ST3+ or equivalent, consultant and anaesthetic team<br>Consider review by outreach team |
| Medical review timing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                             | Within 30 minutes                                               | Within 15 minutes                                                                                    | Immediate                                                                                                   |
| Minimal vital signs recording until medical review/ongoing plan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Continue with current observation frequency | Reassess observations within 30 minutes & document ongoing plan | Reassess observations within 15 minutes & document ongoing plan                                      | Continuous observations                                                                                     |
| Secondary contact                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                             | ST3+ or equivalent                                              | Consultant or equivalent                                                                             | Clinical outreach team or equivalent                                                                        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When the primary team member(s) contacted is unable to attend or fails to attend within the expected time for the level of clinical concern, escalation to the secondary contact is required</li> <li>The secondary contact would be expected to attend within the initial medical review timing, calculated from the documented time of primary escalation</li> <li>The section <b>pulse (from 48 hours after birth)</b> cut-offs should be used for all women from 48 hours after birth. The time and date from which these values should be used should be entered on the front of the chart.</li> </ul> |                                             |                                                                 |                                                                                                      |                                                                                                             |