Breathing difficulty in the Newborn

Check:
- Respiratory Rate
- Cyanosis
- Oxygen saturation (SpO2)

Specific Management

Severe respiratory distress
- RR>90/minute with grunting/retractions OR
- RR<30/minute OR
- Cyanotic on > 1 L/min on nasal prongs or catheter or > 5L/min O$_2$ on oxygen by hood OR SpO2 <90%

Moderate respiratory distress
- RR 60-90/minute AND retractions/grunting OR
- RR>90/minute OR
- Oxygen 0.5 to 1 L/min on nasal prongs or catheter or 3-5 L/min on oxygen by hood & pink or SpO2 >90%

Mild respiratory distress
- RR 60-90/minute OR
- Oxygen < 0.5 L/min on nasal prongs or catheter or < 3L/min on oxygen by hood & pink or SpO2 >90%

Watch for signs of improvement
- Decreasing oxygen requirement
- No grunting or indrawing or cyanosis
- Decreasing RR

Remove oxygen observe every 15 minutes for next one hour to see for pink tongue & lips, consider alternative methods or direct breast feeding once off oxygen. No difficulty in breathing, feeding well, pink for at least 2 days without oxygen: discharge.

For additional / next level management please refer to WHO Guidelines (Managing Newborn Problems and Pocket Book of Hospital Care of Children), http://www.ontop-in.org/sick-newborn/, http://www.newbornwho.cc.org/
Standard Treatment Protocol for management of common newborn conditions in small hospitals
(Adapted from WHO Guidelines)

For additional / next level management please refer to WHO Guidelines (Managing Newborn Problems and Pocket Book of Hospital Care of Children), http://www.ontop-in.org/sick-newborn/, http://www.newbornwhoccc.org/
Assessment of severity of respiratory distress

Panel 1: WHO Classification of respiratory distress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Respiratory Rate (bpm)</th>
<th>Grunting or Chest indrawing</th>
<th>Requirement of oxygen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By hood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>More than 90</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>&gt;5 L/min</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Less than 30</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>More than 90</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>3-5 L/min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>60 – 90</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>3-5 L/min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mild</td>
<td>60 – 90</td>
<td>Absent</td>
<td>&lt;3 L/min</td>
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