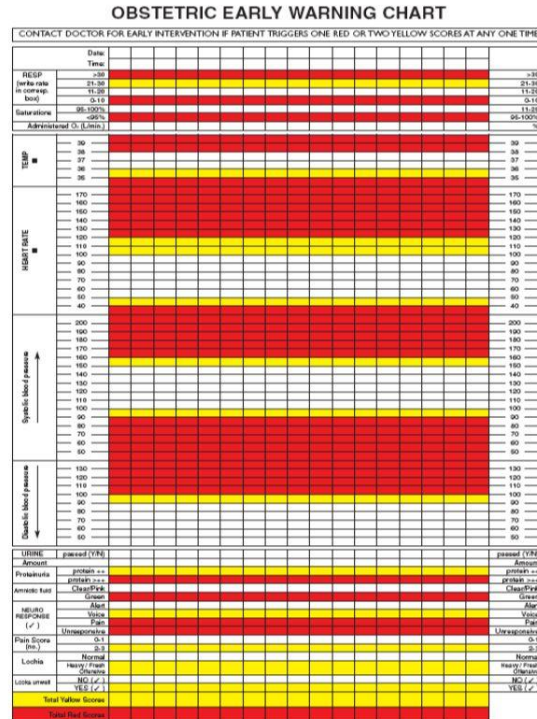


Caring for Sick Women

SHIP Maternity Academy

Early warning systems

Early Warning Systems - MEOWS



MEOWS charts are fundamental as an early warning tool .

Failure to identify early signs of serious illness in obstetric patients has been a recurrent feature in cases of maternal death and serious morbidity

They should include

- Respiratory Rate
- O2 Saturation
- Heart Rate
- Systolic Blood pressure
- Diastolic Blood pressure
- Temperature

Additional considerations to this

Urine output

Altered level of consciousness is an urgent marker

Prioritising Care

- Assess the MEOWS score
- Escalate based on the triggers

- Once you have concerns that the patient is deteriorating you should do a systematic assessment using the ABCDEF approach

A= AIRWAY

Why do we need to assess the airway first

How do you assess airway ?

LOOK, LISTEN, AND FEEL
HEAD TILT / CHIN LIFT



LOOK

LISTEN

FEEL

DO YOU NEED HELP?

B =Breathing

How do you assess breathing ?

LOOK

LISTEN

FEEL

Do you need to reassess airway ?

snoring

stridor

wheezing

paradoxical breathing

CIRCULATION

How do you assess circulation?

Look

Listen

Feel

DO YOU NEED HELP



Cap refill



CYANOSIS



D=Disability

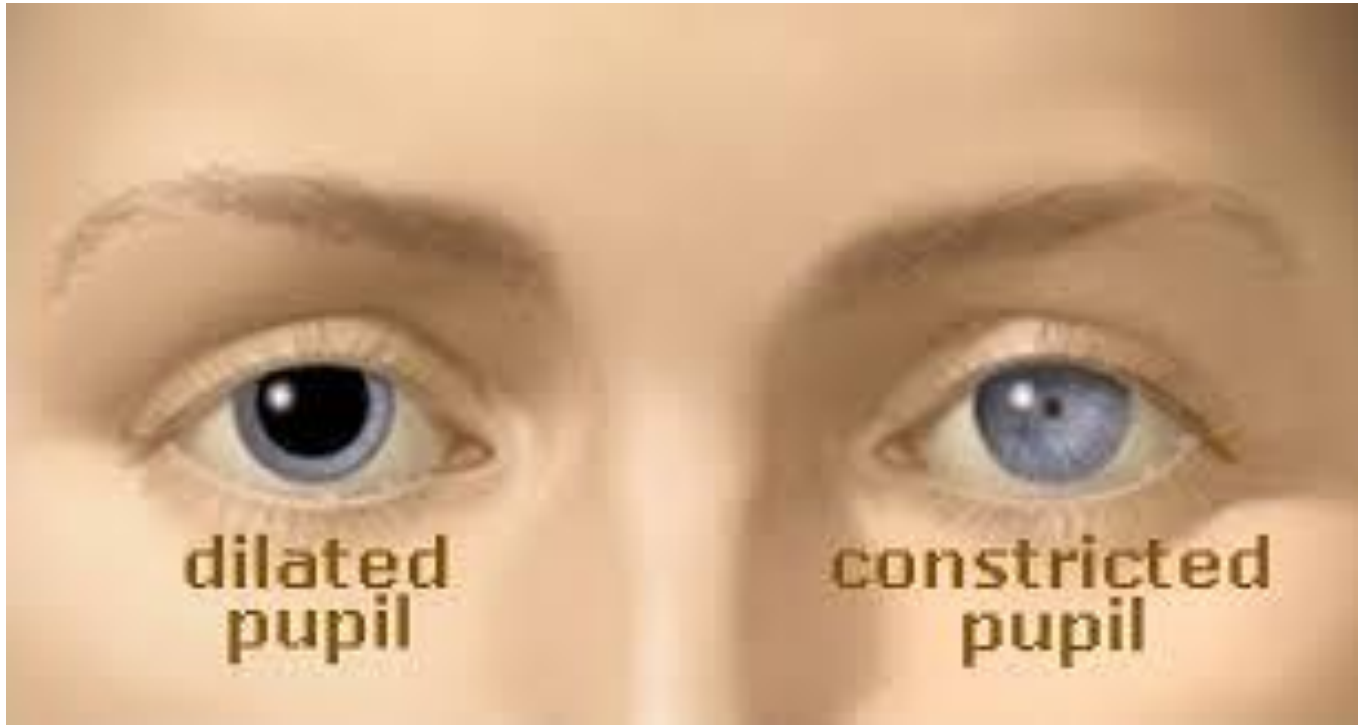
How do you assess disability ?

- Level of consciousness
- Pupils
- Blood Glucose

Do you need to reassess airway

Do you need help

Pupils



E = Exposure

What are you looking for ?

Blood loss

Rashes

Abdominal Distension (not related to pregnant uterus)

Possible DVT

Wound

Sites of potential infection (puncture sites , throat lochia)

Do you need help



F = Fetus

The fetus makes the uterus a significant organ after 20 weeks and has the capacity to impact on maternal health and wellbeing

DO YOU NEED HELP NOW

**DO YOU NEED TO
REASSESS AND START
AGAIN**

ABCDEF

- **THE AIRWAY MUST ALWAYS BE THE PRIORITY WHEN DOING THE SYSTEMATIC ASSESSMENT**

**Without a protected airway
the patient will die!!!!**

DOCUMENTATION

- Don't forget to use ABCDEF assessment in your records
- SBAR when handing over or requesting help
- Situation
- Background
- Assessment
- Recommendation

Documentation

- A Airway Patent Sally talking in full sentences
- B Breathing Resp rate 14, Chest movement equal and clear on auscultation
- C Circulation Pulse 90 , BP 110/65 CRT 2secs
- D Disability AVPU Alert and orientated BM 5 Pupils equal and react to light
- E Exposure No evidence of rashes, pv loss normal
- F Fetus No t applicable as post natal

Questions



32570881
Chudtsankov | Dreamstime.com

Download from
Dreamstime.com
This is a stock image for personal use only.