DEPARTMENT: Poudre Valley Hospital Emergency Medical Services	POLICY DESCRIPTION: Pediatric Patient Assessment
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# **Pediatric Patient Assessment**

#### SCOPE:

Poudre Valley Hospital EMS and represented Northern Colorado services [See page 1]

### **PURPOSE:**

To define pediatric assessment

## PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES:

#### A. Definition

- 1. Pediatric patients are defined as age < 14 years.
- 2. Neonate: birth to 1 month
- 3. Infant: 1 month to 1 year
- 4. Toddlers: 1-5 years
- 5. School age: 6-14 years

### B. Primary assessment

- 1. Scene size-up, mechanism of injury/illness
- 2. Spine precautions if indicated.
- 3. Responsiveness: AVPU, interaction of patient with guardian and rescuer.
- 4. Airway: Patency, obstruction, foreign body
- 5. Breathing: rate, depth, chest rise, lung sounds, equality, work of breathing (retractions, nasal flaring, grunting, tripoding and head bobbing).
- 6. Circulation: heart rate, regularity, quality, capillary refill, blood pressure, skin color and temperature.
- 7. Disability: GCS; Pupil size and reactivity; eye movements; Motor (posturing, seizures, paralysis, strength), Sensory (numbness, tingling, sensory level), fontanels (flat, depressed, or bulging).
- 8. Expose patient completely as needed to facilitate exam but try to prevent hypothermia
- 9. Adjuncts: Pulse oximetry, capnography, blood glucose, temperature monitor as indicated.

#### C. Expanded Exam as Indicated

- 1. When appropriate utilize parent/guardian to assist.
- HEENT: Blood/fluid from ears, nose, mouth or eyes, pupils, lacerations, eye
  movements, conjunctiva, swelling, tenderness, bruising, rashes, deformity,
  wounds, mucous membranes, presence of tears, drooling, fontanel and
  trauma.
- 3. Neck: swelling/mass, JVD, crepitus, tracheal position, subcutaneous air, retractions, bleeding, wounds, tenderness, bruising, deformity, hoarseness and trauma.
- 4. Chest: Crepitus, lung sounds, subcutaneous air, paradoxical movement, instability, bleeding, heart sounds, wounds, tenderness, swelling, bruising, retractions, diaphragmatic breathing, surgical scars and trauma.
- 5. Abdomen: Rigidity, guarding, distention, bleeding, wounds, tenderness, bruising, rebound, surgical scars and trauma.

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- 6. Pelvis/GU: Stability, crepitus, priapism, bleeding, wounds, rashes.
- 7. Extremities: CMS, range of motion, pulse equality, edema, bleeding, wounds, deformity, crepitation, strength, sensory level.
- 8. Back: edema, bruising, bleeding, wounds.
- 9. Neurological: GCS, cranial nerves, sensory level, reflexes, motor strength, pupils, eye movements. Interacting appropriately
- 10. Skin: rashes, color, temperature, skin turgor, capillary refill.

## D. History

- 1. Onset, progression, does anything make the symptoms better or worse, previous episodes, loss of consciousness, quality, radiation, severity, toxic exposure, sexual activity, pregnancy, drug and alcohol use.
- 2. Is history consistent with exam, consider non-accidental trauma
- 3. Surgeries, medications, dosages, allergies, last oral intake, last bowel movement, urine output, immunizations

#### E. Reassessment

1. Reassess after interventions and more frequently with unstable patients

Age	Weight	HR range	HR ave./min.	Resp. rate range breaths/min.	BP (sys) range (mmHg)
Premie or <3 kg	<3kg	120-160	140	40-60	40-60
Term newborn 1-7 da	ays 3 kg	90-165	125	40-60	60-80
1 wk - 3 wks	3 kg	105-180	150	40-60	60-80
1 month	4 kg	120-180	150	40-60	65-95
6 mos.	8 kg	110-185	140	25-40	65-105
12 mos.	10 kg	110-170	135	20-30	70-110
2 yrs.	12 kg	90-150	120	20-30	70-110
3 yrs.	14 kg	75-135	110	20-30	80-110
4 yrs.	16 kg	75-135	110	20-30	80-110
5 yrs.	18 kg	65-135	100	20-30	80-110
6 yrs.	20 kg	60-130	90	12-25	90-115
8 yrs.	26 kg	60-120	90	12-25	90-115
10 yrs.	32 kg	60-120	90	12-25	95-120
12 yrs.	42 kg	60-120	85	12-25	95-120
14 yrs.	50 kg	60-120	85	12-18	100-130

#### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- A. Patient should remain NPO
- B. Use Broselow Tape if available

## **REFERENCES:**