

NICU Disease Process Map

D.O.B. __8-02-25__	APGAR at birth: __6 and 8__
Gestational Age __30 and 3__	Adjusted Gestational Age __33 and 5__
Birthweight __3__ lbs. __4__ oz./ __1474__ grams	
Current weight __4__ lbs. __4__ oz./ __1927__ grams	

What is happening in the body?

Since the infant was born 10 weeks early, the infant's lungs still need help developing. When infants are born premature, most of the time they have not developed enough surfactant which is crucial in helping the air sacs in the lungs to open fully and provide the ability to breathe at an acceptable rate and pattern. This also affects the amount of oxygen that gets produced to the rest of the body and organs

Disease Name:

Respiratory Depression Syndrome

What medications and nursing interventions/treatments will you anticipate?

The infant was prescribed Poly-Vi-Sol with iron everyday at noon. This medication is a liquid multivitamin that helps with iron deficiency and overall development. The infant was also prescribed Caffeine citrate every 12 hours and this medication helps with apnea by stimulating the central nervous system.

Some nursing interventions include monitoring the infant's respiratory rate, administering oxygen as ordered, maintain airway patency, and close monitoring of vital signs.

What trends and findings are expected?

Trends and findings that are expected would be measuring the infant's growth with the growth chart and finding the infant is increasing on the same percentile curve, as well as being able to lower oxygen consumption, and regular respirations

How will you know your patient is improving?

I will know my patient is improving by comparing vital signs every four hours or as needed; making sure they are not declining. Checking that the infant is continuing development on the same growth percentile curve, checking daily weights, and I&Os for healthy weight gain, eating, and output.

What are risk factors for the diagnosis?

Risk factors for RDS include prematurity since the lungs will be underdeveloped, gestational diabetes can cause a low surfactant production, and mom having multiple births or previous births that included the infant being born with RDS/