

## Neonatal Resuscitation & Special Considerations

EMC 420: Maternal & Child Emergency Care

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This presentation [L04] on neonatal resuscitation and special considerations will be adapted, with changes\*, from material originating from:

American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Heart Association  
Neonatal Resuscitation Program

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## Objectives

**Lesson 6 : Medications; indications and technique**

• Epinephrine administration via

• Endotracheal tube

**Lesson 7 : Problems that can complicate resuscitation**

- Discontinuance of CPR in the delivery room
- Use of Naloxone in the newborn
- Diaphragmatic hernia, choanal atresia and Robin syndrome
- Post resuscitation problems: seizures, hypotension, renal failure

Other non-NRP discussion of epidemiology of newborn risk factors

## Epinephrine: Indications

**Heart rate less than 60 after**

- 30 seconds of assisted ventilation and
- 30 seconds of compressions and assisted ventilation

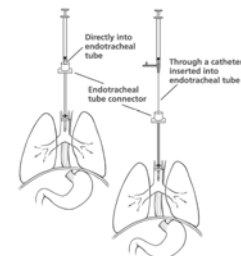
**Total 60 seconds**

**Note:** Epinephrine *not* indicated before adequate ventilation established

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## Epinephrine: Administration Via Endotracheal Tube

- Give directly into endotracheal tube<sup>1</sup>
- May use 5F feeding tube
- Dilution vs flush<sup>1</sup>
- After instillation, give positive-pressure ventilation
- <sup>1</sup> not evidence-based



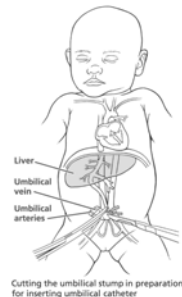
Epinephrine may be administered directly into the endotracheal tube (left) or through a catheter inserted into the endotracheal tube (right).

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## Epinephrine: Administration Via Umbilical Vein

**Placing catheter in umbilical vein**

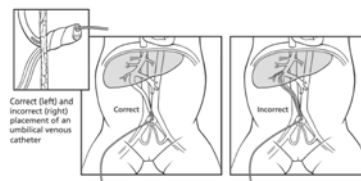
- Preferred route
- 3.5F or 5F end-hole catheter
- Sterile technique



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## Epinephrine: Administration Via Umbilical Vein

- Insert 2 to 4 cm
- Free flow of blood when aspirated
- Less depth in preterm newborns
- Insertion in liver may cause damage



Correct (left) and incorrect (right) placement of an umbilical venous catheter

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## Epinephrine

Recommended concentration =  
1:10,000

Recommended route =  
by endotracheal tube or intravenously

Recommended dose =  
0.1 to 0.3 mL/kg of 1:10,000 solution

Recommended preparation =  
1:10,000 solution in 1-mL syringe

Recommended rate of administration =  
*Rapidly* — as quickly as possible

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## Epinephrine: Poor Response (Heart Rate <60 bpm)

### Recheck effectiveness of:

- Ventilation
- Chest compressions
- Endotracheal intubation
- Epinephrine delivery

### Consider possibility of:

- Hypovolemia
- Severe metabolic acidosis

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## Poor Response to Epinephrine: Hypovolemia

### Signs of Hypovolemia

- Pallor after oxygenation
- Weak pulses (high or low heart rate)
- Poor response to resuscitation
- Low blood pressure/poor perfusion

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## Blood Volume Expansion: Acceptable Solutions

- Normal Saline
- Ringer's lactate
- O-negative blood

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## Blood Volume Expansion: Dose and Administration

Recommended solution =  
Normal saline

Recommended dose =  
10 mL/kg

Recommended route =  
Umbilical vein

Recommended preparation =  
Estimated volume drawn into large  
syringe

Recommended rate of administration =  
Over 5 to 10 minutes

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## Medications: Sodium Bicarbonate

Recommended dose =  
2 mEq/kg (4 mL/kg of 4.2% solution)

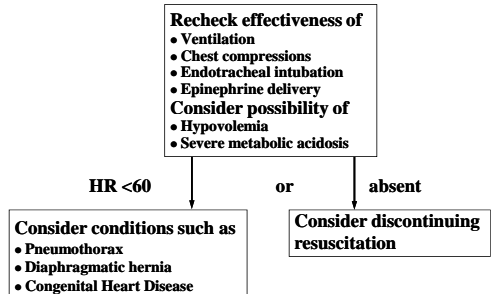
Recommended route =  
Umbilical vein, from which there is good  
blood return

Recommended preparation =  
0.5 mEq/mL (4.2% solution)

Recommended rate of administration =  
*Slowly* — no faster than a rate of  
1 mEq/kg/min

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## Lesson 6: Medication Given: No Improvement



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## Lesson 7: No Improvement After Resuscitation: Categories

- Failure to begin spontaneous respirations
- Inadequate ventilation with positive-pressure ventilation
- Baby remains cyanotic or bradycardic despite good ventilation

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## Failure to Initiate Spontaneous Respirations

- Brain injury (hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy)
- Sedation secondary to maternal drugs

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## Narcotic Antagonist: Naloxone Hydrochloride

### Naloxone Hydrochloride

Recommended concentration =  
1.0 mg/mL solution

Recommended route =  
Endotracheal or intravenous preferred;  
intramuscular or subcutaneous  
acceptable but delayed onset of action

Recommended dose =  
0.1 mg/kg

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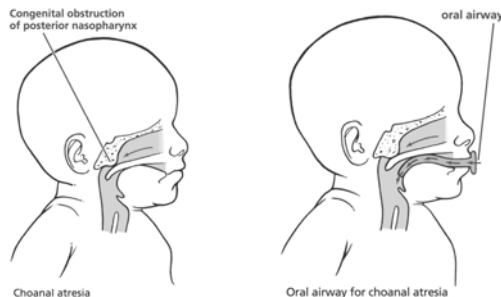
## Positive-pressure Ventilation Fails to Produce Adequate Ventilation

### Mechanical blockage of airway

- Meconium or mucous plug
- Choanal atresia
- Airway malformation
- Other rare conditions

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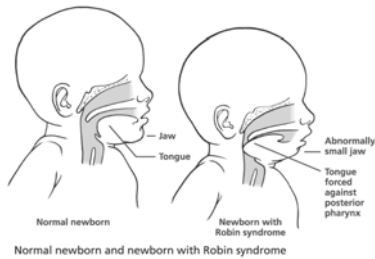
## Mechanical Blockage of Airway: Choanal Atresia



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### **Mechanical Blockage of Airway: Pharyngeal Airway Malformation**

#### **Robin syndrome**



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### **Positive-pressure Ventilation Fails to Produce Adequate Ventilation**

#### **Impaired lung function**

- Pneumothorax
- Pleural effusion
- Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
- Pulmonary hypoplasia
- Extreme prematurity
- Congenital pneumonia

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### **Impaired Lung Function: Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia**



Compromised lung function from presence of a congenital diaphragmatic hernia

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### **Post-resuscitation Problems**

- Pulmonary hypertension
- Pneumonia, aspiration, or infection
- Hypotension
- Fluid management
- Seizure, apnea
- Hypoglycemia
- Feeding problems
- Temperature management

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### **Post-resuscitation Problems: Premature Infants**

- Temperature management
- Immature lungs
- Intracranial hemorrhage
- Hypoglycemia
- Necrotizing enterocolitis
- Oxygen injury

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### **Ethical Principles: Starting and Stopping Resuscitation**

- No different than older child or adult
- No advantage to delayed, graded, or partial support
- Support can be withdrawn after initiation
- Base decision on data (may not be available in delivery room)
- Communicate with family prior to resuscitation if possible

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### Ethical Decisions: Non-initiation of Resuscitation

- Confirmed gestation < 23 weeks or birthweight < 400 grams
- Anencephaly
- Confirmed trisomy 13 or 18

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### Lesson 7: Ethical Decision: Stopping Resuscitation

- Ensure adequate resuscitation efforts
- May stop after 15 minutes of asystole
- Ongoing evaluation, discussion with parents and team, if prognosis uncertain

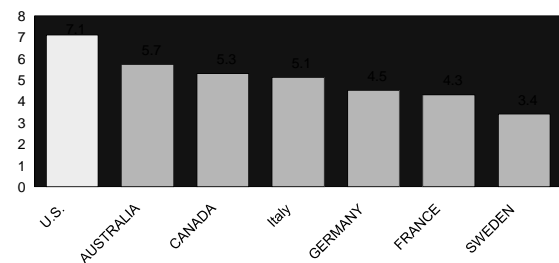
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### Epidemiology of Infant Mortality

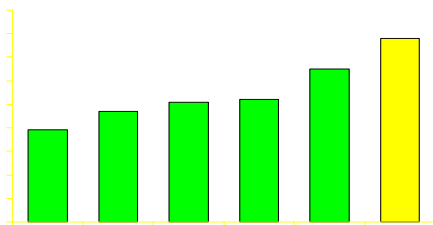
- Definition:
  - Deaths in First Year of Life per 1000 Live Births
- Infant mortality in the US compared to other nations
- Infant mortality in various populations within the US

### Infant Mortality

Deaths in First Year of Life per 1000 Live Births  
1999



### Infant Deaths by Income, Canada Even the Poor Do Better than U.S. Average



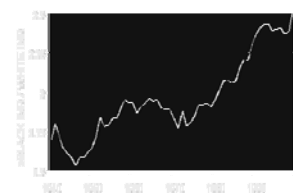
### Infant Mortality Disparity

Black deaths/white deaths ratio

- Ratio has steadily worsened since the late 70's

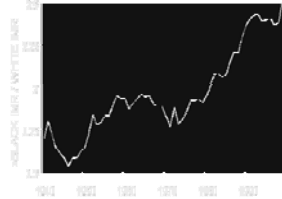
Why the widening disparity

- Could income distribution be associated with increased mortality in the US ?



## Economic Disparity and Infant Mortality

- Income distribution in US found to be associated with increased mortality
- A cross sectional ecological study in the US looked at income distribution and mortality.
- Size of the gap between the wealthy and less well off - more than the absolute standard of living of the poor seems to be a significant mortality factor
- Findings suggest that policies that deal with growing inequities in income distribution may have an important impact on the health of the population.
- *Kennedy, Kawachi, Prothrow-Stith, Harvard School of Public Health  
BMJ 1996;312:1004-1007*



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