

Wellington Adult Vital Signs Chart

Medical Staff Modification to Early Warning Score (EWS) Triggers

The EWS can be changed to prevent chronic disease incorrectly triggering escalation. This can only be authorised by a Consultant or Registrar and should be regularly reviewed by the primary team. **Ignore any modification that is not signed & dated**

Vital Sign	Accepted Values & Modified EWS	Date & time	Doctors name, designation & contact details
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		:	
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		:	
		/ /	
		:	
NOT FOR CPR	NOT FOR MET	/ /	
		:	

All limitations must be documented in the patient's clinical record

Mandatory Early Warning Score Escalation Pathway

Total Early Warning Score	Mandatory Action
EWS 1-5 or any vital sign in yellow zone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage pain, fever or distress Increase frequency of vital sign monitoring
EWS 6-7 or any vital sign in orange zone	House officer review within 60 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform nurse in charge Refer to Patient At Risk (PAR) nurse #6785 Increase frequency of vital signs
EWS 8-9 or any vital sign in red zone Likely to deteriorate rapidly	Registrar review within 20 minutes & consider ICU referral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Document plan including intervention, escalation & review timeframe
EWS 10+ or any vital sign in blue zone Immediately life threatening critical illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dial 777 State 'Medical Emergency Team' & give your location Support Airway, Breathing & Circulation

CALL 777 FOR ANY PATIENT YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT REGARDLESS OF VITAL SIGNS OR EWS

A full set of vital signs with corresponding EWS must be taken & calculated each time at the frequency stated in the 'Essential Vital Sign Measurement - Adult Inpatients' protocol. If there is no timely response to your request for review, escalate to the next coloured zone

Each vital sign is scored according to the coloured zone it falls within (see key below) Any patient receiving supplemental oxygen automatically scores 2, regardless of rate

Early Warning Score Colour Key				
0	1	2	3	MET: MEDICAL EMERGENCY TEAM

Vital Signs	Date Time (24 hour)	EWS	Date Time (24 hour)
Respiratory Rate (breaths/min) write value in box	> 35	MET	> 35
	25-35	3	25-35
	21-24	2	21-24
	12-20	0	12-20
	9-11	1	9-11
	5-8	3	5-8
	< 5	MET	< 5
Supplemental O₂ write value L/min		2	L/min
O₂ Saturation (%) write value in box	≥ 96	1	≥ 96
	94-95	2	94-95
	92-93	3	92-93
	≤ 91	2	≤ 91
Temperature (°C) mark with X	≥ 39	1	≥ 39
	38	0	38
	37	0	37
	36	1	36
	≤ 35.0	3	≤ 35.0
Blood Pressure (mmHg) score systolic value only	220	3	220
	210		210
	200		200
	190		190
	180		180
	170		170
	160	0	160
	150		150
	140		140
	130		130
	120		120
	110	1	110
	100	2	100
	90	3	90
80	3	80	
Heart Rate (bpm) mark with X	70		70
	60	MET	60
	50		50
	140	MET	140
	130	3	130
	120	2	120
	110		110
	100	1	100
	90		90
	80		80
	70	0	70
60		60	
50	2	50	
40		40	
30	MET	30	
Level of Consciousness ✓	Alert	0	Alert
	Voice / Pain	3	Voice / Pain
	Unresponsive	MET	Unresponsive
EARLY WARNING SCORE TOTAL			EWS TOTAL

Pain	write score (0-10)	Move Rest	Move Rest
Urine Output ✓	Catheter	> 100mls / 4h	> 100mls / 4h
		< 100mls / 4h	< 100mls / 4h
	No catheter	PU last 8h	PU last 8h
		Not PU last 8h	Not PU last 8h