Highlights of the Newborn Physical Exam-From Birth to Early Infancy

Content Outline

1. Physical Examination of the Newborn at Birth
   1.1 Objectives of performing routine newborn examination & the process
   1.2 Observation of appearance, posture & movements plus assessment of
      1.2.1 Skin
      1.2.2 Head including eyes, ears, mouth & palate
      1.2.3 Breathing pattern, respiratory rate & appearance of chest
      1.2.4 Heart rate, sounds & murmurs
      1.2.5 Appearance of the abdomen & genitalia
      1.2.6 Limbs, hands, feet, hips, back, spine, posture & muscle tone
   1.3 Detailed neurologic assessment including status of cranial nerve function
      1.3.1 Impact of prematurity on maturation of neurologic signs
   1.4 Limitations of the routine newborn physical examination
      1.4.1 Physical exam & screening for congenital heart disease (CHD)
      1.4.2 Issues of detecting developmental dysplasia of the hip (DDH)
   1.5 Discharge physical exam, health promotion & discharge criteria

2. Newborn Issues of Concern for Which Parents Seek Care After Discharge Home
   2.1 Eye appearance or eye drainage
   2.2 Umbilical cord stump and umbilical hernia
   2.3 Vomiting and/or stool concerns
   2.4 Movement patterns
   2.5 Breathing
   2.6 Skin color or concerns about skin spots and bruises

Reading Material Resources- Page 2
Reading Material Resources

Module WB2151: Highlights of the Newborn Physical Exam-From Birth to Early Infancy is based on the resources listed below. A copy of each resource is included with the module.
