Initial Assessment & Care of the Newborn

Content Outline

1. Processes Affecting Newborn Safety and Transition to Home
   1.1 Proper infant identification and security
   1.2 Risk assessment and communication with providers

2. Physical Assessment
   2.1 Thermoregulatory status
   2.2 Cardiopulmonary status
   2.3 Gastrointestinal system function
   2.4 Renal failure
   2.5 Evaluation of weight, length and head circumference

3. Routine Interventions for Prophylaxis and Screening
   3.1 Prophylaxis
      3.1.1 Gonococcal ophthalmia
      3.1.2 Hemorrhagic disease of the newborn
      3.1.3 Hepatitis B
      3.1.4 Omphalitis
   3.2 Screening
      3.2.1 Hypoglyceremia
      3.2.2 Anemia/polycythemia
      3.2.3 Isoimmunization & hyperbilirubinemia
      3.2.4 Metabolic diseases or hemoglobinopathies
      3.2.5 Hearing
      3.2.6 Exposure to drugs of abuse
      3.2.7 Urinary dilatation
      3.2.8 Developmental hip dysplasia
      3.2.9 Sepsis

4. Circumcision

5. Discharge Planning
   5.1 Assessment and support for breastfeeding
   5.2 Discharge timing and follow-up based on risk factors
   5.3 Aspects of car seat safety and pre-discharge testing

Reading Material Resources

Module WB1604: Initial Assessment & Care of the Newborn is based on the resources listed below. A copy of each article is included with the module.

Rudolph's Pediatrics, 22nd edition, Chapter 45, Burgos AE., "Postnatal care and observation" 20 pages