

SEPSIS SCREENING TOOL

National Early Warning Score (NEWS)

PHYSIOLOGICAL PARAMETERS	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
Respiration Rate	≤8		9 - 11	12 - 20		21 - 24	≥25
Oxygen Saturations	≤91	92 - 93	94 - 95	≥96			
Any Supplemental Oxygen		Yes		No			
Temperature	≤35.0		35.1 - 36.0	36.1 - 38.0	38.1 - 39.0	≥39.1	
Systolic BP	≤90	91 - 100	101 - 110	111 - 219			≥220
Heart Rate	≤40		41 - 50	51 - 90	91 - 110	111 - 130	≥131
Level of Consciousness				A			V, P, or U

The NEWS Score Initiative flowed from the Royal College of Physicians' NEWS Development and Implementation Group (NEWSDIG) report, and was jointly developed and funded in collaboration with: The Royal College of Physicians, The Royal College of Nursing, The National Outreach Forum, and NHS Training for Innovation



Training for Innovation

The National Early Warning Score (NEWS) thresholds and triggers

NEW scores	Clinical risk
0	Low
Aggregate 1 – 4	
RED score* (Individual parameter scoring 3) Aggregate 5 – 6	Medium
Aggregate 7 or more	High

Please see next page for explanatory text about this chart.



The NEWS trigger system aligned to the scale of clinical risk

*RED score refers to an extreme variation in a single physiological parameter (ie score of 3 on the NEWS chart, coloured RED to aid identification and represents an extreme variation in a single physiological parameter). The consensus of the NEWS Development and Implementation Group (NEWSDIG) was that extreme values in one physiological parameter (eg heart rate ≤40 beats per minute, or a respiratory rate of ≤8 per minute or a temperature of ≤35°C) could not be ignored and on its own required urgent clinical evaluation.

If patient score is 3 in any parameter or overall score ≥5 consider hospital admission, 999 if patient acutely unwell.

Note: Clinical judgement needs to be used at ALL times. NEWS is only a guide – some patients may require action despite a low NEWS score. On the other hand some patients will have a high NEWS score because of underlying disease eg COPD patient RR>25 or oxygen sats <91%.