

Nurse's role in the care of a neonate on CPAP in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in a low resource setting

Background

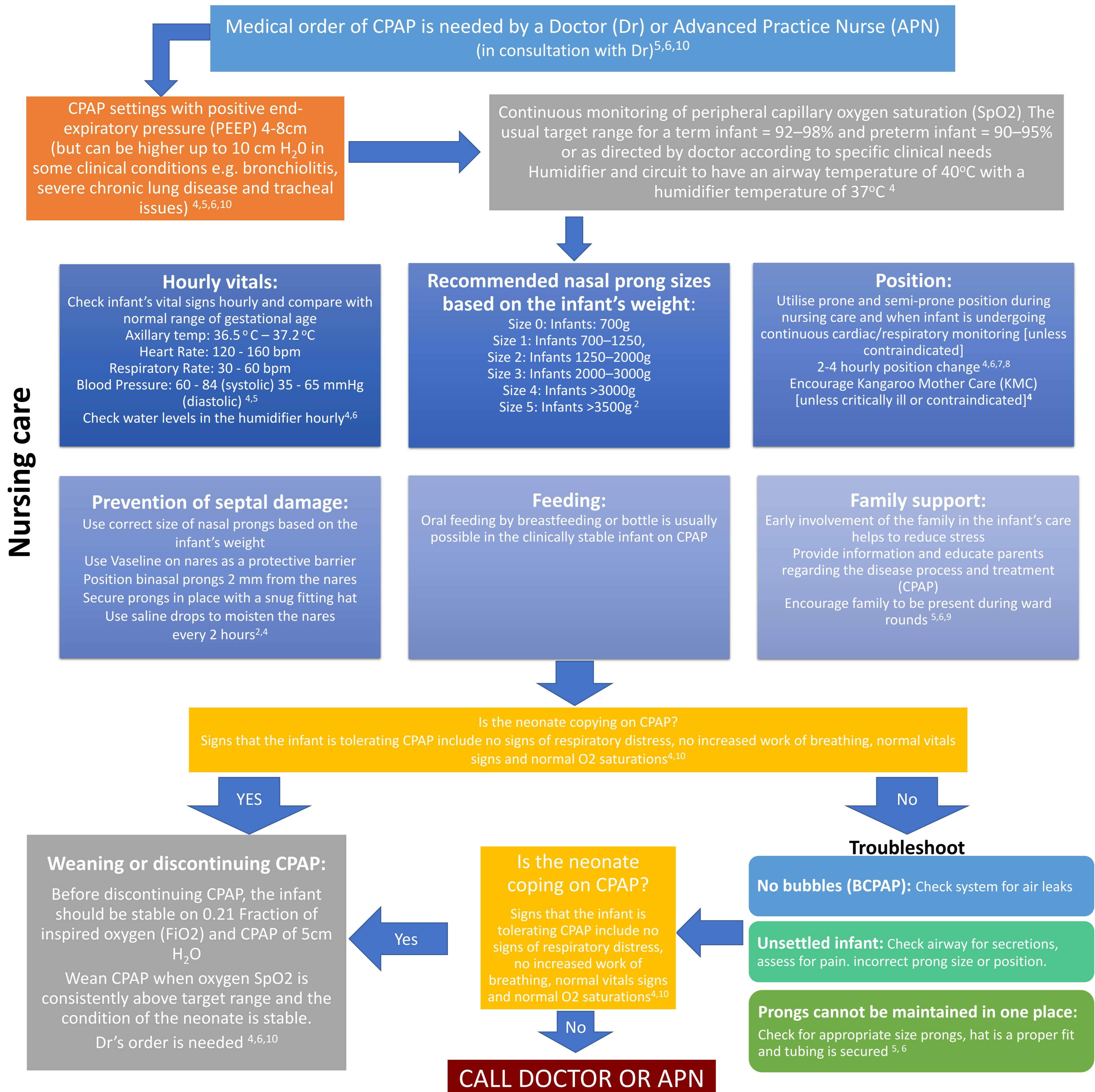
Worldwide, about 2.9 million deaths in neonates are related to severe respiratory distress. Respiratory distress is when a neonate presents with clinical signs indicating difficulties in breathing.¹ Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) is a therapy that can be used on premature and term infants to improve oxygenation to the lungs and prevent alveoli from collapsing.^{2,3} Nurses are an important resource of the care system as they care for neonates on CPAP.⁴

Purpose

- To develop an evidence-based practice guideline that will identify the best evidence to inform practice for nursing caring for a neonate on CPAP and how it can relate to our low-income, limited resourced settings.
- This guideline was developed through a topic-specific scope review to identify evidence relating to each aspect of care and the identification, appraisal and contextual adaptation of existing guidelines produced by international advanced nurse practitioners and professional societies.

Flow chart for the care of a neonate on CPAP

This flow chart is to be used in conjunction with the full evidence-based practice guideline (available from the author) and appropriate staff education and training.



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