



BARKLEY'S REVIEW GUIDE *for* **Pediatric Nurse Practitioners**

Prenatal/Newborn Health Screening

In the evaluation of any pediatric patient, an accurate history is essential to identify potential and actual health problems. In addition to the traditional history elements including chief complaint, history of present illness, and review of systems, etc., a comprehensive history of the newborn (and to age 3 years) should include a detailed assessment of the pre/peri/postnatal course.

The Newborn Assessment: History

Prenatal History

1. Pregnancy etiology
 - a. Intentional
 - b. Natural reproduction
 - c. In-vitro fertilization
 - d. Other infertility protocols
2. Course of prenatal care
3. Xenobiotics used during the gestational period
4. Health problems during pregnancy
5. Intrauterine fetal health problems in utero
6. How does the mother feel about this pregnancy?

Perinatal History

1. Vaginal delivery vs. C-section
2. Planned vs. emergent C-section
3. Induced labor
4. Length of labor and delivery
5. Gestational age at birth
6. Style of delivery
7. Analgesia/anesthesia
8. Complications
 - a. Placenta previa/abruptio
 - b. Meconium
 - c. Forceps/vacuum
9. Birth size/weight

- a. Low birth weight (LBW): < 2500 g
 - b. Very low birth weight (VLBW): < 1,500 g
 - c. Extremely low birth weight (ELBW): < 1,000 g
10. Assessment of weight for gestational age
- a. Appropriate for gestational age (AGA): Between the 10th and 90th percentile
 - b. Large for gestational age (LGA): Weight > 90th percentile, associated with maternal diabetes
 - c. Small for gestational age (SGA): Weight < 10th percentile; symmetric vs. asymmetric
11. APGAR scores (5 areas of assessment for a total of 10 points): Appearance, heart rate, grimace, activity, and breathing

APGAR Scoring

(Maximum Score at 1 and 5 minutes = 10)

APGAR Sign	2	1	0
Appearance (skin coloration)	Normal color all over (hands and feet are pink)	Normal color (but hands and feet are bluish)	Bluish-gray or pale all over
Heart Rate (pulse)	Normal (above 100 beats per minute)	Below 100 beats per minute	Absent (no pulse)
Grimace (responsiveness or "reflex irritability")	Pulls away, sneezes, or coughs with stimulation	Facial movement only (grimace) with stimulation	Absent (no response to stimulation)
Activity (muscle tone)	Active, spontaneous movement	Arms and legs flexed with little movement	No movement, "floppy" tone
Breathing (rate and effort)	Normal rate and effort, good cry	Slow or irregular breathing, weak cry	Absent (no breathing)

Postnatal History

- 1. Hospital course
- 2. Maternal problems
 - a. Bleeding
 - b. Volume problems
 - c. Response to anesthesia
 - d. Breastfeeding
 - e. Depression