



Common Respiratory Conditions in Primary Care

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How sick am I?

- Triage and when to refer or discuss



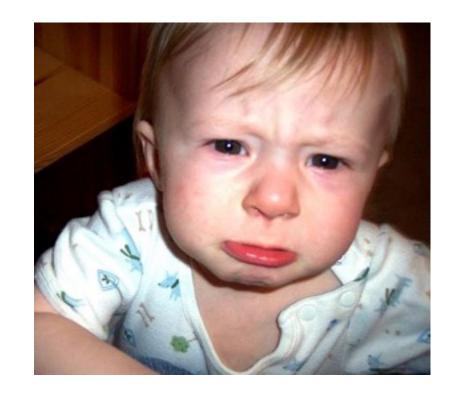


Te Whare Wananga o Tamaki Makaurau

Jesse

• 10 months old

Mum reports Jesse has been coughing for 3 days, has a runny nose and is miserable



- What more information do you want from Mum?
- What would you look for when observing Jesse
- What would you measure
- What are reassuring signs
- What are worrying signs



Current illness

how long has it been going on for **Is she getting better or worse...** Is she eating,

Is she drinking - passing urine

?Fever

Energy, ?lethargic

?Rash

History

Previously well Recurrent illnesses Any other medical history of note Taking an medications

Social history

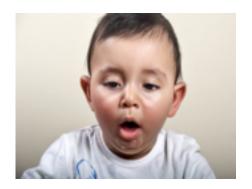
Family situation: support, nutrition Housing – warmth, crowding, stability Household smokers

A – appearance (airway)

Mental status, muscle tone, body position

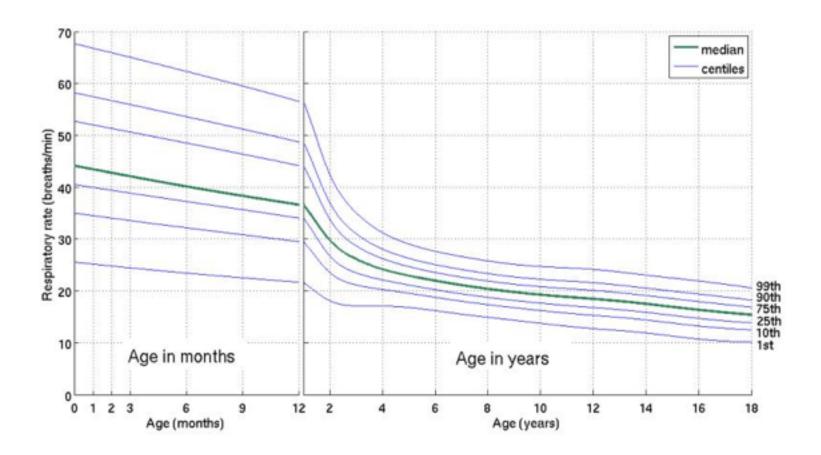
B – breathing

- Visible movement, (chest/abdo), effort – normal/increased
- Accessory muscle /recession
- Count the RR
- **C** colour (circulation)
 - ?tachycardia

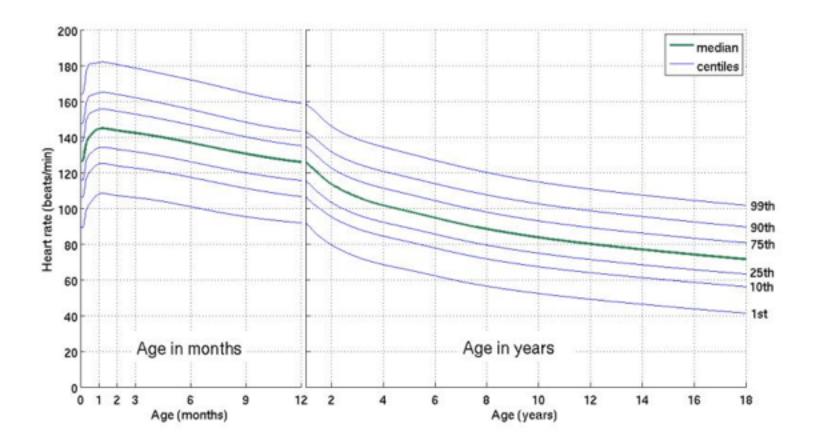


Age		Normal respiratory rates	Normal pulse rate	Systolic BP
Newborns and infants	Up to 6 m old	30-60 breaths/min	100 - 160	>60
Infants	6 to 12 m old	24-30 breaths/min	100 - 160	>60
Toddlers and children	1 to 5 years old	20-30 breaths/min	90 - 150	>70
Children	6 to 12 years	12-20 breaths/min	70 - 120	>80

Refs: health.msn.com and health.ny.gov/professional.ems.education



Flemming S Lancet 2011,377(9770):1011-1018



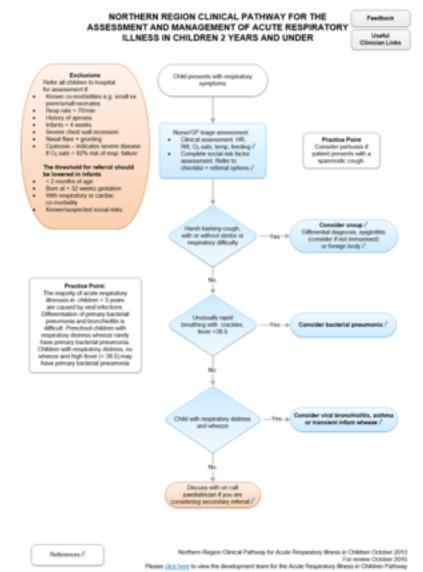
Red flags for sick kids



Red Flags

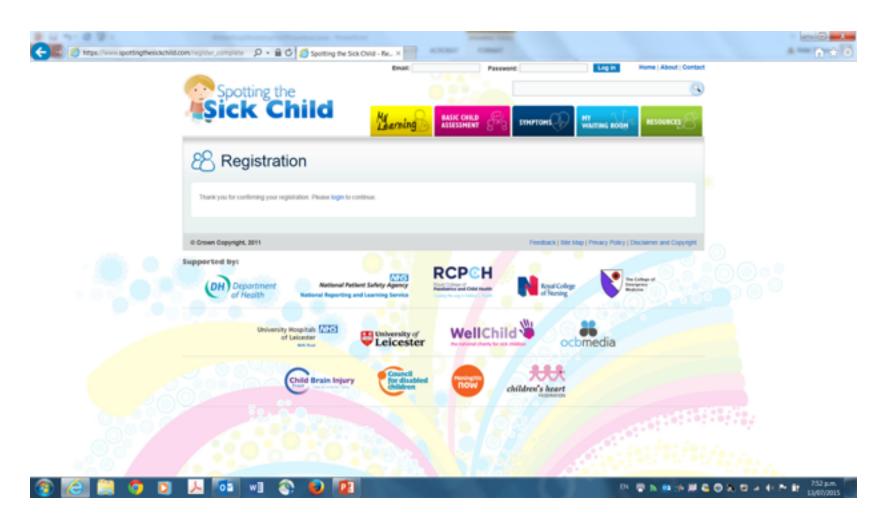
- Fever
- Colour
- Respiratory distress
- Raised RR/HR
- O2 saturation
- Lethargy
- Not drinking
 - Reduced urine output
- Recurrent or prolongued
- Previous history
- On any medication
- Concerns in the social situation

... Use of clinical pathways



What advice would you give this mother?

https://www.spottingthesickchild.com/register



?Treating a fever



our opinion

- From an immunological point of view pyrexia may be good
- Duration of fever ≠ serious bacterial infection
- Need the diagnosis
- Need to review if not improving
- Need to treat dehydration
- Use analgesia for pain /distress, not fever
- Mostly viruses higher fever than bacteria
 - But not always eg bronchiolitis
- No evidence for use of 'antipyrexia'
 - no evidence for 'height of fever' as a threshold red flag

Mrs Jones



The local rest home has rung and is asking for advice.

Mrs Jones lives in her own unit, has been feeling unwell with a cough for 2 days

- · What more information do you want to know
- What are the red flags
- What are the reassuring signs
- What advice would you offer

Current illness

how long has it been going on for **Is she getting better or worse...** What sort of cough is it

What other symptoms does she have

- **SOB**, **chest pain**Is she eating, sleeping

Is she drinkingpassing urine

?Fever Energy, **?lethargic**

History

Previously well
Recurrent illnesses
Medical history of note
Medications
Smoker

Red Flags

- Confusion
- Fever
- Getting worse
- Not drinking
- Socially Isolated
- Falls

High risk of complications

>65 yrs with acute cough and 2 or more of the following criterion

or >80 yrs with one or more of the following criterion

- Type 1 or 2 diabetes
- Hx CHF
- Current use of oral steroids
- Systemically very unwell

Nice guideline 69

Identifying those with RTIs who are likely to be at risk of developing complications

- Systemically very unwell
- Sx/signs of serious illness and/or complications (pneumonia, mastoiditis, intraorbital and intracranial complications)
- At high risk of serious complications from pre-existing comorbidities (significant heart, lung, renal, liver, neuromuscular disease, immunosuppression, infants born preterm)
- ≥ 3 episodes of wet cough lasting > 4 weeks during the last 12 months
- Unlikely to promptly return for further consultation in the event of deterioration
- >65 with acute cough and 2 or more of the following criterion
 - Hospitalisation in previous year
 - Type 1 or 2 diabetes
 - Hx CHF
 - · Current use of oral glucocorticoids



Flu Vaccination





 Flu Vaccine is 'moderately' effective against hospitalisation and general practice influenza

BUT

- · Higher effectiveness in healthy adults and children
- Reduced effectiveness for some important groups
 - Elderly
 - Chronic conditions
 - Very young children (unless had maternal vaccination)

THERE IS A LOT OF FLU AROUND TO SPREAD

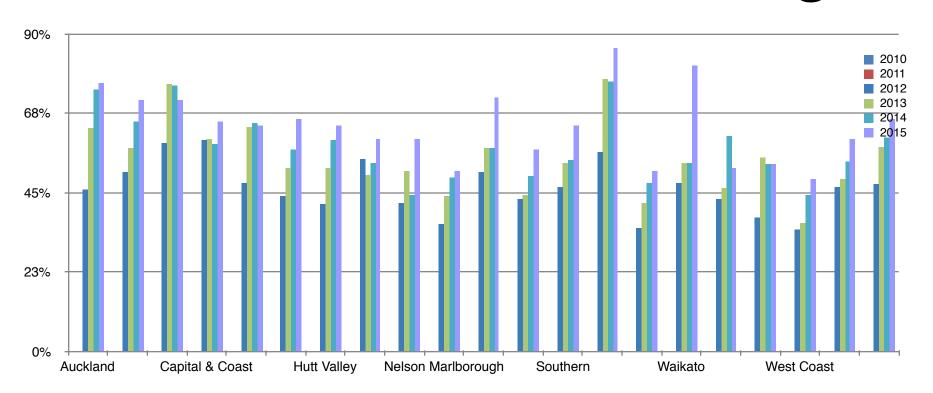
- even when we don't know we have it

- 1 in 5 people are infected yearly
- only 30% of these are symptomatic
 - Of the symptomatic:
 - Only 22% seek General Practice care

Based on data from:



DHB staff influenza coverage



27

Evidence base....









And how safe are our waiting rooms?





0800 IMMUNE (466 863)

www.immune.org.nz

