

Neonatal Respiratory Assessment

Course Description: This module reviews the anatomy and physiology of the respiratory system, normal and abnormal respiratory findings during daily assessments, and many of the common respiratory pathologies that are seen in neonatal intensive-care units. It includes two case scenarios that test student understanding of the material.

Course Objectives:

- Describe the basic anatomy and physiology of the newborn respiratory system
- Differentiate typical and atypical findings during newborn respiratory assessments
- Explain the physiology of gas exchange at the alveolar level
- Differentiate the signs and symptoms of newborn respiratory disease from those of newborn cardiac disease
- Describe the physiology, etiology, and presentation of newborns diagnosed with Respiratory Distress Syndrome
- Explain typical signs, symptoms, and care for the most common newborn respiratory diagnoses
- Discuss the importance of needle decompression and the use of chest tubes in tension pneumothorax
- Explain the three main structural anomalies found in the newborn airway
- Discuss key aspects of mechanical respiratory support and nitric oxide
- Explain the usefulness of related tests, procedures, and laboratory findings