

Information for Health Care Support Worker regarding observations of patients

Please use the following information as a guide on what is required when patients attend the treatment centre. Additional observations/tests may be required by the clinician who sees the patient.

Presenting symptom	Observations to be carried out
Chest pain	BP, pulse, temperature Oxygen saturations, respirations Peak flow (if suspected respiratory problem) patient facial colour, sweating ect to be noted
Abdominal pain	BP, pulse, temperature 02 Saturations, respirations Urinalysis Women- note first day last menstrual period (LMP) pregnancy test if appropriate
Upper respiratory problem i.e. cough, cold, sore throat	Temp, pulse, peak flow, respiratory rate and if short of breath or noisy breathing ie wheezy- oxygen saturations, observe for tracheal tug and abdominal recession.(child)
Rash	Check rash fades with pressure or (glass test) if available Temp, pulse, 02 saturations respirations neck stiffness Ask about other symptoms (ie sore throat any products changed at home eaten any thing differently)
Unwell child	Temp, pulse, respirations, heart rate, 02 saturations check for rash up to date with immunisations Eating and drinking ok? Vomiting or diarrhoea? Passed urine Document who is with the child, and relationship to child Observe rapport between carer and child Consider Child Protection issues
Light headed/dizzy	BP, pulse, temp, 02 saturations, Blood glucose, urine analyst, Taking fluids, has eaten
Headache	BP, pulse, temp,02 sats respiration – ask if any blurred vision carry out Blood Glucose, urinalysis

Leg pain	BP, Pulse, O2 sats respirations Temp (Adults) PTO Continued Check for swelling of limb, pain, tenderness, sensation, warmth, colour change to limb e.g redness, hardness to calf (child) Temp, O2 sats resp pulse :- check for rash discolouration of limb any limping, or none weight bearing
Short of breath or difficulty in breathing	Temp, pulse, BP, respirations, peak flow if appropriate Oxygen saturations Observe skin colour for greyness or blueness around lips and examine finger nails where appropriate
Pregnancy and Post vaginal bleeding	BP, pulse, respirations, urinalysis, O2 saturations pregnancy test Vaginal loss/bleeding? When was last LMP (Last Menstrual Period) How many weeks pregnant? First pregnancy?
Skin infections- boils, abscesses,	Temp, pulse O2 saturations, respirations blood glucose, Pulse, if recurrent infection, urinalysis
Diarrhoea and vomiting	Temp, pulse, BP, O2 saturations urinalysis, respiration Blood glucose if diabetic urinalysis any foreign travel eaten any take away food
Back pain	Urinalysis, b/p respirations O2 saturation Temp Pulse pain score 1-10 Colour of limbs? Able to move without difficulty? Any trauma, any exercise or lifting
Mental health	Observe generally- inform clinician if worried about behaviour b/p pulse O2 saturations Temp respirations if needed
Diabetes	Blood glucose b/p respirations O2 saturations Pulse Urinalysis Temp eaten and drank recently
Urinary problems	Temperature b/p O2 saturations Temp Urinalysis Pulse respirations abdo pains and back pains Ladies- LMP any Post Vaginal bleeding