

Outpatient Bronchiolitis Care Guideline

Inclusion Criteria:

- Age less than 2 years
- Mild rhinorhea or nasal congestion for 1-3 days, followed by:
 - Persistent cough
 - Wheezing with or without rales
 - Tachypnea or retractions
 - Afebrile or T<39C

Exclusion Criteria:

Chronic Lung Disease, anatomical defects of the airways, hemodynamically significant congenital heart disease, immunodeficiency, neuromuscular disease, signs of pneumonia (T>39C with focal findings on lung exam), asthma

At Risk for Severe Disease

- Premature (< 32 weeks)
- Age < 12 weeks

Assess Clinical Severity

Mild Disease

- No tachypnea
- No or minimal retractions
- Clear BS or mild end expiratory wheezing
- Looks well
- Feeding well and hydrated

- Consider pulse ox measurement, if available

O2 sat <90%

No

Yes

Discharge Home

- Educate about reasons to return to ED/clinic, expected clinical course, bulb suctioning, no smoking
- Phone follow up or return to clinic within 24 hours

Moderate Disease

- Mild to moderate tachypnea
- Mild to moderate retractions
- Diffuse expiratory wheezing with or without early inspiratory wheeze
- My be irritable or ill-appearing but not toxic

- Nasal suctioning in the office
- Pulse Ox measurement
- Antipyretic for fever if indicated
- Repeat clinical assessments over next 1-2 hours

Any of the following persistently present during observations?

- O2 sat <90%
- Moderate tachypnea or retractions
- Clinical dehydration or poor oral fluid intake (<50-75% of normal)
- Ill-appearing

No

Yes

- If sat < 90%, start supplemental O2
- **Transfer to ED**

Severe Disease

Any of the following:

- Apnea or history of apnea
- Marked tachypnea (RR>70)
- Marked retractions, nasal flaring or grunting
- Looks seriously ill or toxic
- Markedly irritable or decreased level of consciousness
- O2 sat persistently <90% or presence of cyanosis if no sat monitor

- Provide supplemental oxygen if pulse oximetry is <90%
- **Urgent transfer by EMS to ED**
- Consider single albuterol treatment while waiting or transfer to ED