# Head and Neck Surgery or Procedure GRG

GRG: SG-HNS (ISC GRG)

MCG Health General Recovery Care 28th Edition Surgical Admission Case Management GRG C GRG

Note: An appropriate Optimal Recovery Guideline (ORG) should be identified and used whenever possible. This General Recovery Guideline (GRG) is intended to aid only in situations in which no ORG appears applicable.

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# **Care Planning - Inpatient Admission and Alternatives** Clinical Indications for Procedure

- Surgery or other procedure covered by this guideline is indicated for **1 or more** of the following:
  - Eye disease surgery needed, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(1):
    - Cataract(2)(3)(4)
    - Glaucoma(5)(6)(7)
    - Corneal lesion(8)(9)
    - Other ophthalmologic pathology
  - Eye trauma surgery needed (eg, laceration, lens repair, cornea repair)(1)(10)
  - E Reconstruction procedure needed for eye, head, or neck abnormalities, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
    - Cleft palate or lip(11)
    - Maxillofacial deformities(12)
    - Eye muscle palsy(13)
    - Congenital atresias, cysts, or sinus remnants
    - Other pathology of eye, head, or neck
  - Biopsy or resection procedure needed, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(14)(15):
    - Skull mass
    - Neck mass(16)
    - Oropharyngeal mass
    - Skin mass or lesion
    - Laryngeal lesions or masses(17)
    - Other mass or lesion
    - Tonsillectomy or adenoidectomy needed(18)(19)(20)
  - Drainage or debridement procedure needed, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(18)(21)(22)(23):
    - Abscess (eg, peritonsillar abscess)(24)
    - Sinusitis(25)

- Otitis(26)(27)
- Mastoiditis(28)(29)
- Other head and neck pathology requiring drainage or debridement
- E Head and neck trauma surgery needed, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(30)(31)(32)(33)(34)(35):
  - Fractures(36)
  - Lacerations
  - Laryngeal or tracheal injury
  - Other traumatic injury of head or neck
- Epistaxis control procedure needed (eg, arterial ligation, endovascular embolization, repair of vascular malformation)(37)(38)
- Vocal cord or related structure operation needed (eg, polyps, vocal cord paralysis)(39)(40)
- Salivary or parotid gland resection needed for refractory sialolithiasis(41)(42)
- Foreign body removal (eg, aspiration)
- · Operation for hearing loss needed (eg, ear reconstruction, implants)
- Surgical procedure needed for sleep apnea (eg, palatal, nasal, maxillomandibular advancement, supraglottoplasty)(43)(44)(45) (46)
- Complex dental procedure needed(47)
- Tracheostomy procedure needed, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(48)(49):
  - Tracheostomy creation
  - Tracheostomy repair
  - Surgery for complications(50)

# **Alternatives to Procedure**

- Alternatives may include:
  - Medical treatment for eye, ear, nose, and throat diseases; examples include(1):
    - Medications for glaucoma(5)(6)(7)
    - Local treatment for corneal disease(8)(9)(51)
    - Antimicrobials for ocular infection, sinusitis, or otitis(8)(9)(27)(51)(52)(53)
    - Nonsurgical treatment for obstructive sleep apnea(43)(44)
    - Speech and swallow therapy (eg, for vocal cord paralysis)
    - Injection laryngoplasty for vocal cord paralysis(54)
    - Anti-inflammatory medications for ocular disease
    - Retrobulbar injections of alcohol or chlorpromazine for blind painful eye
    - Needle aspiration of tonsillar or peritonsillar abscess(55)
  - Outpatient epistaxis control (eg, anterior cauterization or packing)(38)(52)
  - Radiation or chemotherapy for neoplasms(14)
  - · Conservative care for hearing loss or craniofacial deformities
  - Office-based treatment for most dental problems
  - Extracorporeal shock wave lithotripsy for parotid gland calculi or sialolithiasis(42)
  - Outpatient cochlear implantation(56)
  - Palliative care as appropriate

# **Operative Status Criteria**

Search by CPT® code for specific procedure Benchmark Length of Stay (BLOS).

Note: The definition of an ambulatory procedure depends on payer-provider contractual agreement or regulatory language (eg, CMS' Two-Midnight Rule). An ambulatory procedure may include one postoperative overnight stay in a facility; therefore, a Benchmark Length of Stay (BLOS) of ambulatory refers to patients discharged the day of or the day after the procedure. Depending on various patient and procedural factors, some patients undergoing a procedure with an ambulatory BLOS require inpatient care (eg, medical necessity for hospital-based care across 2 or more postoperative midnights). The

#### Ambulatory Surgery Exception Criteria <sup>C</sup> GRG can help with this determination.

- Ambulatory: Benchmark Length of Stay (BLOS) = A
- Inpatient, as indicated by 1 or more of the following:
  - Benchmark Length of Stay (BLOS) = 2 or more days postoperative (eg, medical necessity for hospital-based care across 2 or more postoperative midnights)
  - Procedure is usually performed on ambulatory basis, but inpatient stay is needed. See Ambulatory Surgery Exception Criteria
     GRG.
  - Medicare patient, and specific procedure is on CMS Inpatient Only List

# **General Recovery Course**

Stage	Level of Care	Clinical Status	Interventions
1	<ul> <li>OR to ICU or intermediate care[A]</li> <li>Social Determinants of Health Assessment</li> <li>Discharge planning. See General Discharge Planning Tool C GRG.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clinical Indications met[B]</li> <li>Procedure completed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Inpatient interventions as needed</li> </ul>
2	<ul><li>Floor</li><li>Social Determinants of Health Assessment</li></ul>	No ICU or intermediate care needs	<ul> <li>Inpatient interventions continue</li> <li>Transition to oral routes</li> </ul>
3	<ul> <li>Activity level acceptable</li> <li>Social Determinants of Health Assessment</li> <li>Floor to discharge</li> <li>Complete discharge planning</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hemodynamic stability</li> <li>Operative site and other wounds acceptable</li> <li>Pain and nausea absent or adequately managed</li> <li>Temperature status acceptable</li> <li>No infection, or status acceptable</li> <li>Ocular status acceptable</li> <li>Orbital edema or inflammation absent or controlled</li> <li>Airway and swallowing status acceptable</li> <li>General Discharge Criteria met</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Intake acceptable</li> <li>No inpatient interventions needed</li> </ul>

#### (2)(8)(9)(22)(43)(44)(51)

Recovery Milestones are indicated in **bold**.

### **Evaluation and Treatment**

- Common treatments and tests include(8)(9)(14)(51):
  - Aspiration precautions and elevation of head of bed to 45 degrees
  - Topical, oral, and IV antibiotics(29)
  - Analgesics(22)(44)
  - NG tube until acceptable swallowing evaluation completed
  - Topical and IV steroids
  - Intraocular pressure monitoring(2)(5)
  - Wound management(43)
- Commonly scheduled interventions include:
  - Ophthalmologic examination and related procedures (eg, gonioscopy, dilated eye examination, intraocular pressure measurement)(2)(5)(8)(9)(51)
  - Laryngoscopy(14)(22)(44)
  - CT, MRI, or PET scan(14)(57)(58)
  - Arteriography or CT angiogram(57)
  - Swallowing study
  - Esophagram
  - Speech evaluation
  - Tracheostomy evaluation and care plan(54)
  - Auditory testing
  - Medical or radiation oncology consultation

Benchmark Length of Stay (BLOS): Access diagnosis and procedure code-specific BLOS via Search functions.

## **Discharge Criteria**

- Continued inpatient stay is needed until 1 or more of the following are present:
  - Acceptable patient status for next level of care is achieved.
  - ALL of the following are present:

- Hemodynamic stability, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
  - Hemodynamic abnormalities at baseline or acceptable for next level of care
  - Patient hemodynamically stable, as indicated by ALL of the following(59)(60)(61)(62)(63):
    - Tachycardia absent
    - Hypotension absent
    - No evidence of inadequate perfusion (eg, no myocardial ischemia)
    - No other hemodynamic abnormalities (eg, no Orthostatic hypotension)
- $\Box$  Operative site and other wounds acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(64):
  - Wounds absent
  - Wound site clean and intact, with minimal to no drainage and without signs of infection
  - Current wound care performable at next level of care
- E Pain and nausea absent or adequately managed, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(65)(66)(67)(68)(69)(70):
  - No pain or nausea
  - Minimal discomfort on oral medications
  - Pain and nausea managed on regimen performable at next level of care
- □ Temperature status acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(71)(72)(73):
  - Temperature less than 100.5 degrees F (38.1 degrees C) (oral) and greater than 96.8 degrees F (36 degrees C) (rectal)
  - Temperature as expected for disease process and appropriate for management at next level of care
- $\Box$  No infection, or status acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(74)(75)(76)(77):
  - No infection present
  - Infection status acceptable for next level of care, as indicated by ALL of the following(78):
    - WBC count normal, stable, or declining with treatment
    - Adequate treatment performable at next level of care
    - Organism and sensitivities identified, or adequate clinical response to empiric therapy
    - Repeat cultures negative or not needed
- Ocular status acceptable, as indicated by 1 or more of the following:
  - No ocular problems
  - ALL of the following(1)(79):
    - Ocular abnormalities (eg, hemorrhage, orbital fracture) acceptable for management at next level of care
    - Intraocular pressure less than 21 mm Hg or acceptable for management at next level of care(80)
- Orbital edema or inflammation absent or controlled
- Airway and swallowing status acceptable, as indicated by **ALL** of the following:
  - Aspiration absent or manageable at next level of care(81)(82)
  - No stridor, or at anticipated baseline
  - Tracheostomy absent or functioning adequately for next level of care(83)
  - Posterior nasal packs absent(84)
- Activity level acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
  - Patient ambulatory and can perform ADL as appropriate for age and development
  - Activity at baseline
  - Activity level acceptable for next level of care
- □ Intake acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(85):
  - Oral hydration, medications, and diet
  - Enteral hydration, medications, and diet
  - Administration routes performable at next level of care
- □ No inpatient interventions needed; examples include:
  - Urgent laryngoscopy
  - · Monitoring for stridor or other airway difficulties
  - Wound care needed not feasible at next level of care
  - Surgery for hemorrhage or other procedural complications
  - Drain care requiring continuing observation and care that cannot be managed at next level of care

General Discharge Criteria <sup>C</sup> GRG met or Pediatric General Discharge Criteria <sup>C</sup> GRG met (if either is relevant or necessary for patient's condition)

# **Case Management**

See Surgical Admission Case Management GRG <sup>II</sup> GRG for further information.

# **Discharge Destination**

• Post-hospital levels of admission may include:

- Home.
- Home healthcare. See Surgical Admission Home Care GRG <sup>L</sup> <sup>HC</sup> or Geriatric Admission Home Care GRG <sup>L</sup> <sup>HC</sup> for further information.
- Recovery facility care. See Surgical Admission Recovery Facility Care GRG <sup>I</sup><sup>C</sup> R<sup>FC</sup> or Geriatric Admission Recovery Facility Care GRG <sup>I</sup><sup>C</sup> R<sup>FC</sup> for further information.

# Evidence Summary Criteria

The evidence for the clinical indications found in this guideline includes 23 published peer reviewed articles, 7 specialty society or other evidence-based guidelines, and 20 book sections.

## Rationale

Use of this MCG care guideline helps the clinician identify, for a given procedure, which patient-specific factors and clinical conditions are appropriate for that procedure. The evidence-based clinical indication criteria assist the clinician in the decision to appropriately perform a procedure, evaluating whether the potential benefits of a procedure outweigh the potential risks. For Medicare enrollees, surgical MCG care guidelines also identify which procedures CMS has designated as inpatient only.

Use of these evidence-based clinical criteria to support decision making around the need for a given procedure is of benefit to the patient, as all procedures come with inherent risk that must be balanced by anticipated clinical benefit. Utilizing evidence-based clinical criteria enables a more accurate and patient-specific decision-making process. In addition, the use of evidence-based guidelines can help reduce unwarranted variation in care, such as divergent clinical thresholds to perform a procedure for clinically similar patients that vary across geographic regions, between facilities, and among individual clinicians.

# **Related CMS Coverage Guidance**

This guideline supplements but does not replace, modify, or supersede existing Medicare regulations or applicable National Coverage Determinations (NCDs) or Local Coverage Determinations (LCDs).

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): 42 CFR 412.3(86); 42 CFR 419.22(87); 42 CFR 422.101(88)

**Internet-Only Manual (IOM) Citations:** CMS IOM Publication 100-02, Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 1 - Inpatient Hospital Services Covered Under Part A(89); CMS IOM Publication 100-02, Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 6 - Hospital Services Covered Under Part B(90); CMS IOM Publication 100-02, Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15 - Covered Medical and Other Health Services(91); CMS IOM Publication 100-08, Medicare Program Integrity Manual, Chapter 6, Section 6.5 - Medical Review of Inpatient Hospital Claims for Part A Payment(92)

Medicare Coverage Determinations: Medicare Coverage Database(93)

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# Footnotes

[A] See Intensive, Intermediate, and Telemetry Care Guidelines C ISC. [A in Context Link 1]

[B] See Clinical Indications for Procedure in this guideline. [ B in Context Link 1 ]

# Definitions

## Activity level acceptable

- Activity level acceptable, as indicated by 1 or more of the following:
  - Patient ambulatory and can perform ADL as appropriate for age and development
    - Activity at baseline
    - Activity level acceptable for next level of care

## Airway and swallowing status acceptable

- · Airway and swallowing status acceptable, as indicated by ALL of the following:
  - Aspiration absent or manageable at next level of care(1)(2)
  - No stridor, or at anticipated baseline
  - Tracheostomy absent or functioning adequately for next level of care(3)
  - Posterior nasal packs absent(4)

#### References

- 1. DiBardino DM, Wunderink RG. Aspiration pneumonia: a review of modern trends. Journal of Critical Care 2015;30(1):40-48. DOI: 10.1016/j.jcrc.2014.07.011.
- Troll C, Trapl-Grundschober M, Teuschl Y, Cerrito A, Compte MG, Siegemund M. A bedside swallowing screen for the identification of post-extubation dysphagia on the intensive care unit - validation of the Gugging Swallowing Screen (GUSS)-ICU. BMC Anesthesiology 2023;23(1):Online. DOI: 10.1186/s12871-023-02072-6.
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## **General Discharge Criteria met**

• General Discharge Criteria met or Pediatric General Discharge Criteria met (if either is relevant or necessary for patient's condition)

## Hemodynamic stability

- Hemodynamic stability, as indicated by 1 or more of the following:
  - Hemodynamic abnormalities at baseline or acceptable for next level of care
  - Patient hemodynamically stable, as indicated by ALL of the following(1)(2)(3)(4)(5):
    - Tachycardia absent
    - Hypotension absent
    - No evidence of inadequate perfusion (eg, no myocardial ischemia)
    - No other hemodynamic abnormalities (eg, no Orthostatic hypotension)

#### References

- 1. Puskarich MA, Jones AE. Shock. In: Walls RM, editor. Rosen's Emergency Medicine: Concepts and Clinical Practice. 10th ed. Philadelphia, PA 19103-2899: Elsevier; 2023:34-41.e1.
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- 5. Singer M, et al. The Third International Consensus definitions for sepsis and septic shock (Sepsis-3). Journal of the American Medical Association 2016;315(8):801-810. DOI: 10.1001/jama.2016.0287.

# Hypotension absent

- Hypotension absent<sup>[A]</sup>, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(1)(2)(3)(4):
  - SBP greater than or equal to 90 mm Hg in adult or child 10 years or older
  - Mean arterial pressure<sup>[B]</sup> greater than or equal to 70 mm Hg in adult or child 10 years or older

- Mean arterial pressure<sup>[B]</sup> at patient's baseline (eg, healthy adult with low SBP), at intentional therapeutic goal (eg, patient with heart failure), or acceptable for next level of care (eg, blood pressure stable and no significant signs or symptoms due to low blood pressure)
- SBP greater than or equal to sum of 70 mm Hg plus twice patient's age in years in child 1 to 9 years of age
- SBP greater than or equal to 70 mm Hg in infant 1 to 11 months of age

#### References

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- 3. Horeczko T. Pediatric cardiac disorders. In: Walls RM, editor. Rosen's Emergency Medicine: Concepts and Clinical Practice. 10th ed. Philadelphia, PA 19103-2899: Elsevier; 2023:2109-2131.e1.
- 4. Singh S, Holmes JF. Pediatric trauma. In: Walls RM, editor. Rosen's Emergency Medicine: Concepts and Clinical Practice. 10th ed. Philadelphia, PA 19103-2899: Elsevier; 2023:2052-2066.e3.

#### Footnotes

- A. Criteria based upon clinician-acquired numeric values (eg, vital signs, oxygen saturation) should be used if they are accurate reflections of the patient's condition. Transitory findings (eg, abnormal only upon initial emergency department intake or only one time out of multiple readings) that rapidly improve with no or minimal treatment usually do not reflect disease severity or risk for deterioration. This does not imply that an initial or one-time reading cannot ever be applicable. The goal is to separate erroneous or incidental findings from those that truly represent the patient's clinical picture.
- B. The mean arterial pressure takes into account both systolic and diastolic blood pressure readings and is calculated as Mean Arterial Pressure (MAP) = 1/3 SBP + 2/3 DBP.

### Intake acceptable

- Intake acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(1):
  - Oral hydration, medications, and diet
  - Enteral hydration, medications, and diet
  - Administration routes performable at next level of care

#### References

1. Hoffer LJ, Bistrian BR, Driscoll DF. Enteral and parenteral nutrition. In: Loscalzo J, Fauci A, Kasper D, Hauser S, Longo D, Jameson JL, editors. Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine. 21st ed. McGraw Hill Education; 2022:2539-2546.

### No infection, or status acceptable

- No infection, or status acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(1)(2)(3)(4):
  - No infection present
  - Infection status acceptable for next level of care, as indicated by ALL of the following(5):
    - WBC count normal, stable, or declining with treatment
    - Adequate treatment performable at next level of care
    - Organism and sensitivities identified, or adequate clinical response to empiric therapy
    - Repeat cultures negative or not needed

#### References

- 1. Hooper DC, Shenoy ES, Elshaboury RH. Treatment and prophylaxis of bacterial infections. In: Loscalzo J, Fauci A, Kasper D, Hauser S, Longo D, Jameson JL, editors. Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine. 21st ed. McGraw Hill Education; 2022:1148-1163.
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## No inpatient interventions needed

- No inpatient interventions needed; examples include:
  - Urgent laryngoscopy
  - Monitoring for stridor or other airway difficulties
  - Wound care needed not feasible at next level of care
  - Surgery for hemorrhage or other procedural complications
  - Drain care requiring continuing observation and care that cannot be managed at next level of care

### **Ocular status acceptable**

- Ocular status acceptable, as indicated by 1 or more of the following:
  - No ocular problems
  - ALL of the following(1)(2):
    - Ocular abnormalities (eg, hemorrhage, orbital fracture) acceptable for management at next level of care
    - Intraocular pressure less than 21 mm Hg or acceptable for management at next level of care(3)

#### References

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- 2. Shah SM, Khanna CL. Ophthalmic emergencies for the clinician. Mayo Clinic Proceedings 2020;95(5):1050-1058. DOI: 10.1016/j.mayocp.2020.03.018.
- 3. Weinreb RN, Aung T, Medeiros FA. The pathophysiology and treatment of glaucoma: a review. Journal of the American Medical Association 2014;311(18):1901-11. DOI: 10.1001/jama.2014.3192.

## Operative site and other wounds acceptable

- Operative site and other wounds acceptable, as indicated by 1 or more of the following(1):
  - Wounds absent
  - Wound site clean and intact, with minimal to no drainage and without signs of infection
  - Current wound care performable at next level of care

#### References

1. Yepuri N, Pruekprasert N, Cooney RN. Surgical complications. In: Townsend CM, Beauchamp RD, Evers BM, Mattox KL, editors. Sabiston Textbook of Surgery. 21st ed. Elsevier; 2022:238-283.

# **Orthostatic hypotension**

- Orthostatic hypotension, [A][B] as indicated by 1 or more of the following(1)(2)(3):
  - Fall in SBP of 20 mm Hg or more 1 to 3 minutes after patient sits or stands from recumbent position
  - Fall in DBP of 10 mm Hg or more 1 to 3 minutes after patient sits or stands from recumbent position

#### References

- 1. Shibao C, Lipsitz LA, Biaggioni I, American Society of Hypertension Writing Group. Evaluation and treatment of orthostatic hypotension. Journal of the American Society of Hypertension 2013 Jul-Aug;7(4):317-324. DOI: 10.1016/j.jash.2013.04.006.
- 2. Dalal AS, Van Hare GF. Syncope. In: Kliegman RM, St. Geme JW, Blum NJ, Shah SS, Tasker RC, Wilson KM, editors. Nelson Textbook of Pediatrics. 21st ed. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2020:566-571.e1.
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#### Footnotes

- A. Concomitant measurements of the heart rate are important to measure to help diagnose subtypes of orthostatic hypotension (eg, the lack of a compensatory increase in heart rate is typical of autonomic failure and an exaggerated tachycardia may be reflective of volume depletion). However, the heart rate is not a component of the definition of orthostatic hypotension which relies upon blood pressure alone.(1)(2)(3)
- B. Criteria based upon clinician acquired numeric values (eg, vital signs, oxygen saturation) should be used if they are accurate reflections of the patient's condition. Transitory findings (eg, abnormal only upon initial emergency department intake or only one time out of multiple readings) that rapidly improve with no or minimal treatment usually do not reflect disease severity or risk for deterioration. This does not imply that an initial or one-time reading cannot ever be applicable. The goal is to separate erroneous or incidental findings from those that truly represent the patient's clinical picture.

# Pain and nausea absent or adequately managed

- Pain and nausea absent or adequately managed, as indicated by 1 or more of the following(1)(2)(3)(4)(5)(6):
  - No pain or nausea
  - Minimal discomfort on oral medications
  - Pain and nausea managed on regimen performable at next level of care

#### References

- 1. Swarm RA, et al. Adult Cancer Pain. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology [Internet] National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). v. 2.2023; 2023 Jul 31 Accessed at: https://www.nccn.org/. [accessed 2023 Aug 21]
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- 6. Fourth consensus guidelines for the management of postoperative nausea and vomiting: erratum. Anesthesia and Analgesia 2020;131(5):e241. DOI: 10.1213/ANE.00000000005245.

# **Social Determinants of Health Assessment**

• Risk of poor health outcomes may be increased by the presence of **1 or more** of the following social determinants of health(1)(2)(3) (4):

- Housing insecurity, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
  - Individual or caregiver's current living situation is 1 or more of the following(5):
    - Does not have own housing (eg, staying in a hotel, shelter, or with others)
    - Has own housing (eg, house, apartment), but at risk of losing it in the future (ie, behind on rent or mortgage)
    - Has own housing (eg, house, apartment), but has lived in 3 or more places in past year
  - Current housing has **1 or more** of the following:
    - Electrical appliances (eg, stove, refrigerator) not working or unavailable
    - Insufficient heating or cooling
    - Insufficient ventilation
    - Lead paint or pipes
    - Mold
    - Pests (eg, bugs) or rodents
    - Smoke detectors not working or unavailable
- Food insecurity, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(6):
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver ran out of food and did not have money to buy more food.
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver worried that they would run out of food before they received money to buy more food.
- Insufficient transportation, as indicated by 1 or more of the following(7):
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver missed medical appointments or could not get medications due to lack of transportation.
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver missed nonmedical activities, work, or could not get things needed for daily living due to lack of transportation.
- Insufficient utilities, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(8):
  - Utilities (eg, electricity, water, gas, or oil) are currently shut off or unavailable.
  - In the past year, electric, water, gas, or oil company threatened to shut off services.
- Personal safety risk, as indicated by **2 or more** of the following(6):
  - Individual is sometimes or frequently physically hurt by another person (including family member).
  - Individual is sometimes or frequently insulted or talked down to by another person (including family member).
  - Individual is sometimes or frequently threatened with physical harm by another person (including family member).
  - Individual is sometimes or frequently screamed or cursed at by another person (including family member).
- Insufficient dependent care, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following:
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver was unable to work due to lack of dependent care.
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver was unable to work more (additional) hours due to lack of dependent care.
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver missed medical appointments or could not get medications due to lack of dependent care.
  - In the past year, individual or caregiver missed nonmedical activities (eg, school, church, social activity) due to lack of dependent care.

- Depression risk, as indicated by ALL of the following:
  - In the past 2 weeks, individual had little interest or pleasure in normal activities on at least several days.
  - In the past 2 weeks, individual felt down, depressed, or hopeless on at least several days.

#### References

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- 5. Sandel M, et al. Unstable housing and caregiver and child health in renter families. Pediatrics 2018;14(2):e20172199. DOI: 10.1542/peds.2017-2199.
- Children's HealthWatch Survey. Screening Instrument [Internet] Children's HealthWatch. 2020 Sep Accessed at: https://childrenshealthwatch.org/. [accessed 2023 Sep 11]
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- 8. Cook JT, et al. A brief indicator of household energy security: associations with food security, child health, and child development in US infants and toddlers. Pediatrics 2008;122(4):e867-75. DOI: 10.1542/peds.2008-0286.

## Tachycardia absent

- Tachycardia<sup>[A][B]</sup> absent, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(1)(2):
  - Heart rate less than or equal to 100 beats per minute in adult or child 6 years or older
  - Heart rate less than or equal to 115 beats per minute in child 3 to 5 years of age
  - Heart rate less than or equal to 125 beats per minute in child 1 or 2 years of age
  - Heart rate less than or equal to 130 beats per minute in infant 6 to 11 months of age
  - Heart rate less than or equal to 150 beats per minute in infant 3 to 5 months of age
  - Heart rate less than or equal to 160 beats per minute in infant 1 or 2 months of age

#### References

- 1. Southmayd GL. Tachycardia. In: McKean SC, Ross JJ, Dressler DD, Scheurer DB, editors. Principles and Practice of Hospital Medicine. 2nd ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill Education; 2017:729-739.
- 2. Pediatric parameters and equipment. In: Kleinman K, McDaniel L, Molloy M, editors. The Harriet Lane Handbook: A Manual for Pediatric House Officers. 22nd ed. 202: Elsevier; 2021:frontpiece tables.

### Footnotes

- A. Criteria based upon clinician acquired numeric values (eg, vital signs, oxygen saturation) should be used if they are accurate reflections of the patient's condition. Transitory findings (eg, abnormal only upon initial emergency department intake or only one time out of multiple readings) that rapidly improve with no or minimal treatment usually do not reflect disease severity or risk for deterioration. This does not imply that an initial or one-time reading cannot ever be applicable. The goal is to separate erroneous or incidental findings from those that truly represent the patient's clinical picture.
- B. Interpretation of heart rate requires clinical judgment and consideration of several patient-specific factors, such as the patient's baseline heart rate, medications, and clinical impact. For example, an elderly patient on a beta-blocker medication with a baseline resting heart rate of 60 beats per minute may be clinically tachycardic at a heart rate of 94 beats per minute. Likewise, a patient who is upset, in pain, or nervous in the emergency department with a heart rate of 106 beats per minute may meet the technical definition of tachycardia, but this tachycardia (absent associated findings such as chest pain or hypotension) may not be clinically important. The numeric values included in this definition are provided to allow for consistency in terms of a technical definition of the term tachycardia. Whether a heart rate above or below the technical threshold is clinically meaningful is a matter of persistence, context, and clinical judgment.

# Temperature status acceptable

- Temperature status acceptable, as indicated by **1 or more** of the following(1)(2)(3):
  - Temperature less than 100.5 degrees F (38.1 degrees C) (oral) and greater than 96.8 degrees F (36 degrees C) (rectal)
  - Temperature as expected for disease process and appropriate for management at next level of care

#### References

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