

Respiratory Status Monitoring

Signs/Symptoms:	NORMAL	RESPIRATORY DISTRESS	Comments/Actions Taken:
General appearance	□ Calm, quiet, not anxious □ Skin is normal colour	□ Distressed/anxious □ Obvious breathing changes □ Exhaustion/fatigue □ Sweaty □ Decreasing level of consciousness □ Skin colour changes (e.g. Light-skin tone- flushed, pale, bluish/gray skin around mouth and nailbeds Dark-skin tone- gray or whitish skin especially around the mouth, nailbeds, and whitish areas of the eyes may appear gray or bluish Yellowish-skin tone- grayish- greenish skin around mouth and nailbeds) See images on pg.2 □ Other:	
Breathing noises	□ Quiet, no changes	☐ Coughing ☐ Wheezing ☐ 'Crackly' moist sounds ☐ Noise when breathing in ☐ Other:	
Rate of breathing	☐ Normal range (adults: 12 to 16 breaths per minute)	☐ Breathing faster than usual☐ Breathing slower than usual☐ Other:	
Breathing effort	□ Normal apparent effort	 □ Less chest movement □ More chest movement □ Use of other muscles in order to breath □ Nasal flaring □ Other: 	
Speech/vocal	☐ Normal speech/ vocalizations	 □ Change in usual □ Unable to speak/vocalize as usual □ Other: 	
Other indicators:			
Other indicators:			



Respiratory Status Monitoring

Peripheral cyanosis





Cyanotic feet (toes)





Cyanotic hands (fingers)







Blue lips









These images may be seen with a person who is exhibiting symptoms of respiratory distress apart from the person's normal presentation (who may have other underlying chronic health issues).

For persons with darker skin tones- it would be difficult to identify signs of respiratory distress using these images, therefore checking the inside of the lip where it is usually pink will be bluish/grey in colour, along with the signs noted under the General Appearance guidelines in the tool on page 1.