Children's
Hospital & Regional Medical Center
Emergency Department

Asthma/Wheezing Pathway

High Respiratory Score

5-12

Patient currently wheezing

1st Assessment & Treatment

Dexamethasone Dosing Table

Wt (Kg)	4 Mg Tabs
8-9	4 mg (1 tab)
10-12	6 mg (1.5 tabs)
13-15	8 mg (2 tabs)
16-20	10 mg (2.5 tabs)
21-24	12 mg (3 tabs)
≥ 25	16 mg (4 tabs)

Consult MD Before Giving Dexamethasone if:

a) < 1 yr old or
b) Has received steroids in last 24 hrs or
c) Altered immune state i.e C-pox, etc

Respiratory Score 5-12

< 21 kg 15mg/hr (3cc 0.5% in 22cc NS)
21-30 kg 20 mg/hr (4cc 0.5% in 21cc NS)
> 30 kg 30 mg/hr (6cc 0.5% in 19cc NS)
Continuous Albuterol Neb in Hope nebulizer with 10L/min O2 flow (run for 1 hr)
+
Atrovent Neb (0.75mg)
+
Dexamethasone

Respiratory Score 1-4

Place on low score nebulization pathway

2nd Assessments 1/2 Hr After Start of Continuous Nebulization

If concerned about respiratory failure or deterioration notify ED attending immediately

Respiratory Score ≤ 3

Hold nebulization, and observe for 1/2 hr

Respiratory Score ≥ 3

Complete continuous nebulization (as above)

If clinical diagnosis of bronchiolitis and not responding to nebs remove pt from pathway

3rd Assessments 1 Hr After Start of Continuous Nebulization

Respiratory Score ≤ 3

Observe for 1/2 hr
and/or arrange for discharge

Respiratory Score 4-9

Assess for admit vs discharge

Discharge

Admit

Respiratory Score 10-12

Continuous nebulization
Dose 30 mg/hr
Respiratory therapy eval
Obtain blood gas
Assess for PICU vs RCU

Discharges to Home

Send home with steroids, nebulization or MDI supplies as needed

Admit to Resp Care Unit if No CLD/CF/etc or Admit to PICU for Score > 10 and Any of the Following:

Distressed/rapid decline
Previous Hx of intubation for asthma
Age < 18 months on continuous nebulization
CO2 > 40 (ABG), > 42 (CBG), > 46 (VBG)

Continued assessments & treatments (while waiting for inpatient room)
Pt may go to floor as soon as unit ready
Give nebulizaton at transfer if needed

Resp Score 10-12: Continuous Albuterol 30 mg/hr & rescore in 30 - 60 min
Resp Score 4- 9: Wt < 30 kg = Albuterol 5 mg neb & rescore in 30 - 60 min
Resp Score 4- 9: Wt > 30 kg = Albuterol 10 mg neb & rescore in 30 - 60 min
Resp Score 0-4 : No Albuterol. Rescore in 30 min - 60 min

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