

incapable of a behavioral or visible pain response.

### **Box 5-2**

## **Manifestations of Acute Pain in the Neonate**

### **Physiologic Responses**

Vital signs: Observe for variations

- Increased heart rate
- Increased blood pressure
- Rapid, shallow respirations

Oxygenation

- Decreased transcutaneous oxygen saturation (TcPO<sub>2</sub>)
- Decreased arterial oxygen saturation (SaO<sub>2</sub>)

Skin: Observe color and character

- Pallor or flushing
- Diaphoresis
- Palmar sweating

Other observations

- Increased muscle tone
- Dilated pupils