

Box 8-1

Classification of High-Risk Infants

Classification According to Size

Low birth weight (LBW) infant: An infant whose birth weight is less than 2500 g (5.5 pounds) regardless of gestational age

Very low birth weight (VLBW) infant: An infant whose birth weight is less than 1500 g (3.3 pounds)

Extremely low birth weight (ELBW) infant: An infant whose birth weight is less than 1000 g (2.2 pounds)

Appropriate for gestational age (AGA) infant: An infant whose weight falls between the 10th and 90th percentiles on intrauterine growth curves

Small for date (SFD) or small for gestational age (SGA) infant: An infant whose rate of intrauterine growth was slowed and whose birth weight falls below the 10th percentile on intrauterine growth curves (see also [Fig. 8-1, B](#))

Intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR): Found in infants whose intrauterine growth is restricted (sometimes used as a more descriptive term for SGA infants)

Symmetric IUGR: Growth restriction in which the weight, length, and head circumference are all affected

Asymmetric IUGR: Growth restriction in which the head circumference remains within normal parameters while the birth weight falls below the 10th percentile

Large-for-gestational-age (LGA) infant: An infant whose birth weight falls above the 90th percentile on intrauterine growth charts

Classification According to Gestational Age