

Planning

The nursing care plan for the high-risk infant depends to a large extent on the diagnosis of the health problem(s) that place the infant at risk. However, the following expected outcomes are appropriate for many high-risk infants and their families:

- Infant will exhibit adequate oxygenation.
- Infant will maintain stable body temperature.
- Infant will exhibit no evidence of nosocomial infection.
- Infant will receive adequate hydration and nutrition.
- Infant will maintain skin integrity.
- Infant will receive appropriate developmental support and care.
- Parents will experience positive parent–infant interactions.
- Parents will exhibit positive caretaking abilities with high-risk infant.
- Family will receive appropriate support, including preparation for home care or for infant's death.

Implementation

Intervention strategies for high-risk infants and their families are discussed on [pp. 237 to 255](#).

Evaluation

The effectiveness of nursing interventions is determined by continual reassessment and evaluation of care based on the following observational guidelines:

- Take vital signs and perform respiratory assessments at time intervals based on infant's condition and needs; observe infant's respiratory efforts and response to therapy; check functioning of equipment; review laboratory test results.