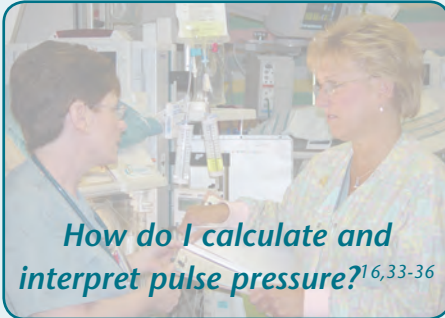




## Clinical Tip



To calculate pulse pressure, subtract the diastolic pressure from the systolic pressure

Gestation	Normal pulse pressure (mmHg) <sup>36</sup>
Term	25 to 30
Preterm	15 to 25

### Possible causes of a narrow or wide pulse pressure

Narrow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peripheral vasoconstriction</li> <li>• Heart failure – low cardiac output, poor myocardial contractility</li> <li>• Compression on the heart – low cardiac output secondary to pneumopericardium, pericardial effusion, tension pneumothorax</li> <li>• Severe aortic valve stenosis</li> </ul>	
Wide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large aortic (diastolic) runoff lesion – patent ductus arteriosus, arteriovenous malformation, truncus arteriosus, aortopulmonary window, aortic regurgitation</li> <li>• Sepsis with vasodilated (warm) shock</li> </ul>	



A narrow or wide pulse pressure should be reported to the infant's medical staff provider.