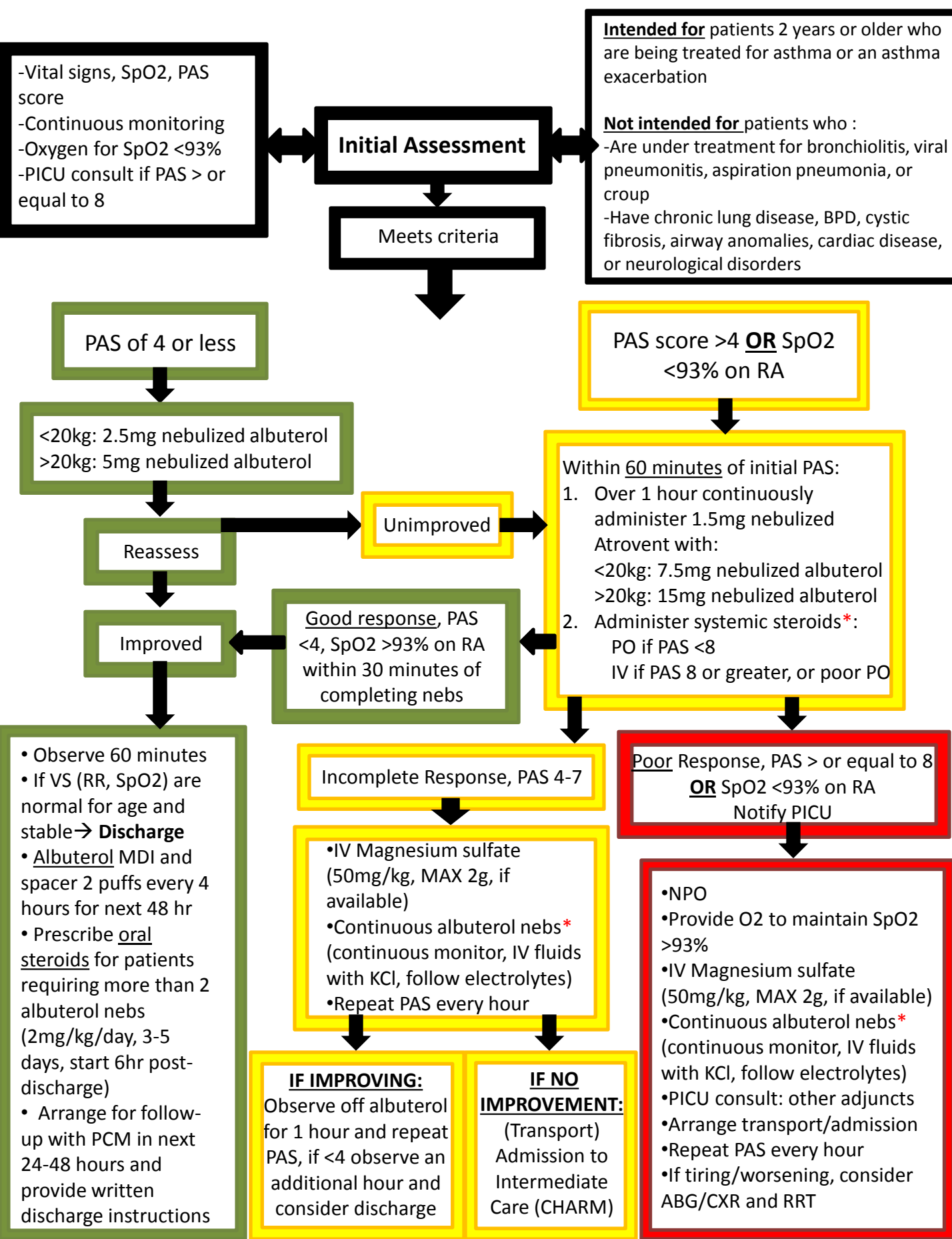


# Clinical Practice Guideline: Pediatric Asthma



**\*Prednisone:** 2mg/kg po to MAX of 80mg

**Methylprednisolone:** 2mg/kg IV to MAX of 80mg

**Dexamethasone:** 6mg po for 7-10kg; 10mg po for 10-20kg;  
16mg po for 20-30kg

**\*Continuous Albuterol:** 5mg/hr for 5-10kg

10mg/hr for 10-20kg

15mg/hr for 20-30kg

**Admit Criteria:** Unable to wean Albuterol to every 4 hours or SpO<sub>2</sub> less than 93% on room air

### PICU

- Requires terbutaline infusion
- Requires continuous nebs
- Consideration for Heliox
- Change in mental status
- Impending respiratory failure
- Noninvasive ventilation required

### General Ward

- Albuterol no more than every 2 hours
- Normal mental status

## Pediatric Asthma Score

Characteristic	0	1	2
<b>Respiratory Rate<sup>1</sup></b>			
1 - 3 years	≤ 34	35 – 39	≥ 40
4 – 5 years	≤ 30	31 – 35	≥ 36
6 – 12 years	≤ 26	27 – 30	≥ 31
> 12 years	≤ 23	24 – 27	≥ 28
<b>O<sub>2</sub> Saturation<sup>2</sup></b>	> 93% on RA	89 – 93% on RA	≤ 88% on RA
<b>Auscultation</b>	Normal BS	Expiratory Wheezes	Insp and Exp Wheezes to Diminished BS
<b>Retractions<sup>3</sup></b>	≤ 1 accessory muscle	2 accessory muscles	≥ 3 accessory muscles
<b>Dyspnea</b>	Speaks full sentences, playful, <u>and</u> good oral intake	Speaks partial sentences, short cry, <u>or</u> poor oral intake	Speaks short phrases, grunting, <u>or</u> unable to PO

<sup>1</sup>Respiratory rate must be obtained over a 30-second time period and then multiplied by 2.

<sup>2</sup>O<sub>2</sub> requirement must be obtained after the patient has been on room air for 2 minutes.

<sup>3</sup>Accessory muscle use includes the following:

- 1) Nasal flaring
- 2) Supra-sternal muscle group use
- 3) Intra-costal muscle group use
- 4) Sub-sternal muscle group use

Weaning Guidelines:

Wean from cont. nebs → q2 if score ≤ 4

Wean from q2 → q4 if score ≤ 1

Discharge if score on q4 ≤ 1

If asthma score ≥ 5 and patient is on q2 nebs, increase to continuous nebs

If asthma score ≥ 2 and patient is on q4 nebs, increase to q2 nebs