Neonatal Oral-Motor Assessment Scale (NOMAS)
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Jaw

Normal	Disorganization	Dysfunction
__ consistent degree of jaw depression	__ inconsistent degree of jaw depression	__ excessively wide excursions that interrupt the intra-oral seal on the nipple
__ rhythmical excursions	__ arrhythmical jaw movements	__ minimal excursions; clenching
__ spontaneous jaw excursions occur upon tactile presentation of the nipple up to 30 minutes prior to a feed	__ difficulty initiating movements: __ inability to latch on __ small, tremor-like start-up movements noted __ does not respond to initial cue of nipple until jiggled	__ asymmetry; lateral jaw deviation
__ jaw movement occurs at the rate of approximately one per second (1/2 the rate of NNS)		__ absence of movement (% of time)
__ sufficient closure on the nipple during the expression phase to express fluid from the nipple	__ persistence of immature suck pattern beyond appropriate age __ under 40 weeks PC (transitional suck)	__ lack of rate change between NNS and NS (NNS = 2/sec; NS = 1/sec)

Tongue

Normal	Disorganization	Dysfunction
__ cupped tongue configuration (tongue groove) maintained during sucking	__ excessive protrusion beyond labial border during extension phase of sucking without interrupting sucking rhythm	__ flaccid; flattened with absent tongue groove
__ extension-elevation-retraction movements occur in anterior-posterior direction	__ arrhythmical movements	__ retracted; humped and pulled back into oro-pharynx
__ rhythmical movements	__ unable to sustain suckle pattern for two minutes due to: __ habituation __ poor respiration __ fatigue	__ asymmetry; lateral tongue deviation
__ movements occur at the rate of one per second		__ excessive protrusion beyond labial border before/after nipple insertion with out/down movement
__ liquid is sucked efficiently into the oro-pharynx for swallow	__ incoordination of suck/swallow and respiration which results in nasal flaring, head turning, extraneous movement	__ absence of movement (% of time)

Summary and impression

Recommendations:

_____
Evaluator