

Obstetrical Triage and Assessment

Site Applicability

All VCH and PHC Maternity Units

Practice Level

Advanced Skill for Specialized Perinatal RNs after completion of the OTAS learning hub module

Need to Know

The practice of triage and assessment within the Obstetrical Triage and Assessment Scale (OTAS) framework is collaborative between the Registered Nurse (RN) and the patient's Most Responsible Provider (physician or Registered Midwife).

The RN completes a perinatal assessment and determines treatment priorities according to OTAS and through appropriate communication with the physician or midwife. RNs use nursing diagnoses to resolve conditions with nursing treatments until a physician or midwife is available to assess the patient and initiate a treatment plan.

The MRP is responsible for treatment decisions, and managing the care and disposition of the perinatal patient from the site when a patient whose pregnancy, labour, or postpartum period has complications or risk factors and requires medical diagnosis of a disease or disorder.

Refer to OTAS Scale for timelines defining:

- Time to initial assessment (RN)
- Time to Healthcare Practitioner Contact
- Reassessment by RN

Protocol

[OBSTETRICAL TRIAGE AND ASSESSMENT](#)

Follow the above link to review OTAS charts for:

- Early Pregnancy (Less than 20+0 weeks gestation)
- Pregnancy (Greater than or equal to 20 Weeks Gestation)
- Postpartum: Less than or equal to 6 Weeks
- Modifier Table for All Perinatal Patients (Early Pregnancy to 6 Weeks Postpartum)

Refer to Perinatal Services BC's [Obstetric Triage Acuity Scale Guidance](#) for the Time to Most Responsible Provider (MRP) Chart.

Documentation

For CST Cerner sites: Perinatal RN will prioritize patient acuity and determine OTAS level, which will be documented in Powerchart

Initial OTAS Score

Powerchart → AdHoc → OB Triage and Assessment → OB Subjective Data → Obstetrical Triage Assessment Scale

Modified OTAS Score (Only if score has changed from the initial Score)

Powerchart → Interactive View and I&O → OB Triage → OB Subjective Data → OTAS

Provider notification – Notify MRP as per the OTAS Time to Healthcare Practitioner Contact recommendation chart

Powerchart → Interactive View and I&O → OB Triage → Provider Notification

Chart the following:

- Notification Reason
- Notification Details
- Time Provider at Bedside
- The Provider Informed
- Provider Response Time
- Provider Requested Interventions
- If Unable to Reach Provider

For Non-Cerner sites:

The [BC Maternal Triage and Assessment Form](#) has an OTAS section in Section 2

First Released Date:	13-JAN-2023	
Posted Date:	13- JAN-2023	
Last Revised:	13- JAN-2023	
Last Reviewed:	13- JAN-2023	
Approved By: <i>(committee or position)</i>	VCH	PHC
	<p>Director Professional Practice Nursing and Allied Health, Professional Practice Leaders</p> <p>Director, Professional Practice for Nursing & Allied Health, Professional Practice</p> <p>Regional Director, Professional Practice Clinical Education Nursing & Allied Health, Professional Practice</p> <p><i>Final Approval:</i></p> <p>VP Professional Practice & Chief Clinical Information Officer, Professional Practice</p>	Practice Consultant, Professional Practice PHC
Owners: <i>(optional)</i>	VCH	PHC
	Nursing Practice Initiatives Lead, Professional Practice	Practice Consultant, Professional Practice PHC