

Awaiting SORT: Caring for the Ventilated Child Checklist

This checklist covers management of a child *following stabilisation and awaiting retrieval* in a referring hospital

This checklist should be used in conjunction with discussions with the SORT consultant, SORT drug calculator and disease-specific and procedural guidelines found on the SORT website

Airway

- Intubate (see '[Intubation check list](#)')
- Secure endotracheal tube (see '[ETT securing guideline](#)')

Breathing

- Full monitoring (End tidal CO₂ & saturations)
- CXR after intubation (ETT, NGT, line positions)
- Ventilation parameters will vary depending on pathology (see '[Initiation of Ventilation During Stabilisation Guideline](#)' and '[Trouble Shooting Ventilation Guideline](#)')
- Recent blood gas (arterial/venous or capillary)
- Secretion clearance if needed (preferably inline suction) (see '[Secretion Clearance in the Intubated Child Guideline](#)')

Circulation

- Full monitoring (ECG & NIBP cycling 3-5 mins)
- Ensure 2 patent and well secured cannula
- Arterial line if required (D/W SORT consultant)
- Central Line if requiring inotropes
- Appropriate treatment of shock with fluid/inotropes/vasopressors (see '[Sepsis Guideline](#)' and/or '[Management of the Collapsed Neonate Guideline](#)')
- Discuss haemodynamic targets with SORT
- Check blood gas for lactate & base deficit

Disability/Neurology

- Adequate sedation (Morphine and Midazolam Infusions 20-80microgram/kg/hour for most cases or propofol 1-4mg/kg/hr (d/w SORT))
- Regular paralysis with Rocuronium 1mg/kg boluses
- Check pupillary responses regularly
- Appropriate neuroprotection for intracranial pathologies (e.g. meningitis, brain injury, blocked VP shunt) (See '[Traumatic Brain Injury Quick Reference Guideline](#)' for generic neuroprotection measures)

Exposure

- Target normothermia (consider antipyretics)
- Urinary catheter on drainage
- NG tube position confirmed, on free drainage
- Reposition 3-hourly to prevent pressure sores
- Ensure eyes kept closed (may need taping)
- Body map any relevant markings/injuries

Fluids

- Nil by mouth & NG tube aspirated
- Monitor blood sugar & correct hypoglycaemia
- Appropriate maintenance fluid commenced
- Monitor fluid balance

Administration

- SORT drug calculator printed
- Photocopy of:
 - Medical notes
 - Nursing notes
 - Medication & fluid charts
 - Blood & gas results
 - Relevant microbiology results
 - Recent clinic letter for long term patients
- Image link relevant radiology images to UHS/OUH as appropriate
- Relevant referrals to local safeguarding teams made (if appropriate)
- Update to SORT with current location of child (if moved)
- Parents updated with progress
 - *Note, please check with SORT if a parent can travel in the ambulance/air craft before promising this to the family*

Phone advice is always available from the SORT consultant on 023 8077 5502