

Protocol Name	Pulse Oximetry
Created date:	August 29 th , 2020
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Last revised:	08/29/20,

Purpose:

- A noninvasive approach to assess oxygen levels in the blood
- An added tool in evaluating a patient's condition

Sign and Symptoms of hypoxia:

- Change in skin color from bluish color to cherry red
- Confusion
- Cough
- Tachycardia
- Shortness of breath
- Sweating

Hypoxia can be caused by following:

- Severe asthma attack
- Respiratory illness, both chronic and acute
- Meds that affect the central nervous system including sedatives and tranquilizers
- Anemia
- Poisoning
- Cardiac problems

Assessment:

- Obtain patient's history, including allergies, medication list and recent activity
- Vital Signs – heart rate, respirations, blood pressure, temperature, pain level and O2 sat level
- Apply pulse ox probe to the patients finger and allow reading to register; repeat as needed

Things that may affect getting an accurate pulse oximetry reading:

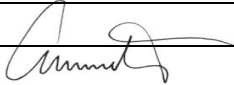
- Poor peripheral circulation
- Hypotension
- Fingernail polish
- Irregular heart rhythm

Standing Orders/Intervention:

- Treat the symptoms not the number
- Do not withhold treatment if pulse ox is normal

- If patient is experiencing severe respiratory distress or crushing chest pain activate 911 Emergency services

Pulse Oximetry - Procedural protocol is part of Affiliated Physician's **ON-SITE CLINIC PROGRAM**. I, hereby acknowledge, the above has been reviewed and approved. Upon clinical assessment and necessity, these orders are to be activated by an Affiliated Physician's on-site nurse and documentation of each episode is mandatory.

Medical Director – Dr. Avram Nemetz
Signature: 
Date: 08/29/2020