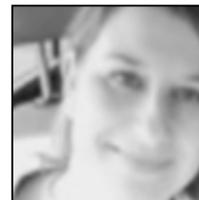


## Assessment of pain in the neonates

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### Abstract

**Statement of the Problem:** Pain is a complex phenomenon whose nature is at best elusive in the neonate. Rationalization for inadequate treatment of pain has resulted in unnecessary suffering for these fragile infants. Research has shown that the “unchecked release of stress hormones by untreated pain may exacerbate injury, prevent wound healing, lead to infection, prolong hospitalization, and even lead to death”. Neonates are more sensitive to pain than are older children and adults, and they are more vulnerable to long-term effects related to pain. Infant pain is often undiagnosed and, in fact, ignored by many health care professional rushing to accomplish specific invasive procedures. Many aspects of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) environment are sources of pain and discomfort for the newborn. Failure to reduce pain in neonates may lead to maladaptive behavior later. Assessment of pain in neonates is often challenging because they cannot verbalize their subjective experience. However, “pain assessment must be designed to conform to the communication capabilities of the suffering person.

**Methodology & Theoretical Orientation:** The recent recommendations emphasize the importance of using pain assessment scales for newborns. The available scales are based on observation and the value of vital signs. Pain Assessment Tool (PAT) score, is a tool that takes into account all the exponents of pain, in particular draws attention to the perceptual evaluation of the nurse. The Newborn Infant Parasympathetic Evaluation (NIPE) monitor recently developed by Mdoloris® company seems to be an interesting in assessing the pain of a newborn. The NIPE monitor provides a consistent and objective assessment of the parasympathetic component of the autonomic nervous system in babies and young infants which is strongly correlated with the pain and/or patient discomfort.

**Conclusion & Significance:** Health care professionals are responsible for influencing positive change in clinical practice about neonatal pain.

### Biography

Anna Rozensztrauch, Ph.D., She is a Assitant professor in department of pediatrics working at Wroclaw Medical University, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatology, Wroclaw, Poland.

### Publications

Single median maxillary central incisor syndrome and variant in SMO gene associated with SHH pathway.

Translation and psychometric testing of the Polish version of the Neonatal Extent of Work Rationing Instrument (NEWRI)

Changing facial features in a child with GAPO syndrome caused by novel mutation in the ANTXR1 gene and uniparental disomy of chromosome 2

DOZ047.23: How esophageal atresia affects the family life

The Quality of Life of Polish Children with Cerebral Palsy and the Impact of the Disease on the Family Functioning



9<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice | Prague, Czech Republic | August 24-25, 2020

**Citation:** Anna Rozensztrauch, *Assessment of pain in the neonates*, 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice, Prague, Czech Republic, 24-08-2020, pp:11-20