

Modified Early Warning Score (MEWS)

Item	Options	Points
Systolic blood pressure (mmHg)	70 or less: Severe hypotension	3
	71-80: Low	2
	81-100: Borderline low	1
	101-199: Expected range	0
	200 or more: Very high	2
Heart rate (beats/min)	40 or less: Very slow	2
	41-50: Slow	1
	51-100: Expected range	0
	101-110: Mildly fast	1
	111-129: Fast	2
	130 or more: Very fast	3
Respiratory rate (breaths/min)	Less than 9: Slow	2
	9-14: Expected range	0
	15-20: Mildly raised	1
	21-29: Fast	2
	30 or more: Very fast	3
Temperature	Below 35.0 °C: Below 95.0 °F	2
	35.0-38.4 °C: 95.0-101.1 °F	0
	38.5 °C or higher: 101.3 °F or higher	2
Level of consciousness (AVPU)	Alert: Awake and responsive	0
	Voice: Responds only to voice	1
	Pain: Responds only to pain	2
	Unresponsive: No response	3

Interpretation

0-4	Below trigger. Below the published trigger of 5. Continue observations per protocol, and escalate for a rising score, any single very abnormal value, or your own concern.
5-14	High risk (5 or more). Linked to a higher risk of death and ICU admission. Notify the provider or rapid response team per your escalation policy and increase monitoring.

Total score: _____ Date: _____ Assessed by: _____

Subbe, Kruger, Rutherford & Gemmel, 2001 (adapted from Morgan's Early Warning Score). Sources: Subbe et al. Validation of a modified Early Warning Score, QJM 2001; NCBI Bookshelf: Details of each early warning score (MEWS); MDApp: MEWS Calculator and references.

Free calculator and full guide: nursingscales.com/mews-score/ · Educational material; does not replace clinical judgment or facility protocols.