Score 0
Score 1
Score 2
Score 3
Emergency call

If any observation is in a shaded area, add up the Total ADDS Score and take the action required for that score.

Actions Required

Total ADDS Score 1–3
• Inform senior nurse and/or Team Leader
• Increase frequency of observations

Total ADDS Score 4–5
• Senior nurse and/or junior medical officer review within 30 minutes
• Increase frequency of observations

Total ADDS Score 6–7
• Senior medical officer review (registrar or above) within 30 minutes
• Request review, and note on the back of this form
• Increase frequency of observations

Total ADDS Score 8
• Place Emergency call
• Begin initial life support interventions (support airway, breathing, circulation)
• Advanced life support provider to attend patient immediately

Emergency call if:
• Airway threat
• Respiratory or cardiac arrest
• New drop in O₂ saturation < 90%
• Sudden fall in level of consciousness
• Seizure
• You are seriously worried about the patient but they do not fit the above criteria
You must record appropriate observations:
- On admission
- At a frequency appropriate for the patient’s clinical state.

You must calculate a Total ADDS Score:
- If the patient is deteriorating or an observation is in a shaded area
- Whenever you are concerned about the patient.

When graphing observations, place a dot (•) in the centre of the box which includes the current observation in its range of values and connect it to the previous dot with a straight line. For blood pressure, use the symbols indicated on the chart.

Whenever an observation falls within a shaded area, you must enter the ADDS Score for that vital sign in the appropriate row of the ADDS Scores table, unless a modification has been made (see below).

General Instructions
- If abnormal observations are to be tolerated for the patient’s clinical condition, write the acceptable ranges below (where the ADDS Score will be 0).
- Modifications must be reviewed at least every 72 hours.
- If any vital sign needs further modifying, draw two diagonal lines through the entire Modification record in use and write the new acceptable ranges in the next Modification record.

Modifications
1. Pain/Epidural/Patient Controlled Analgesia
2. Neurovascular
3. Neurology
4. Insulin Infusion
5. Fluid Balance
6. Anticoagulant
7. Alcohol Withdrawal
8. Other Observation Charts In Use

Interventions Associated With Abnormal Vital Signs