

Pulse oximetry screening algorithm

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Screening should be performed 2 to 24 hours after birth on all well newborn babies with a gestational age ≥ 35 weeks

Perform screening test on left or right foot
(Screening should be performed prior to discharge/transfer from the place of birth)

Saturation $\geq 95\%$
Pass
Ensure clinical examination is also normal

Saturation
90–94%

Saturation $< 90\%$
Refer for medical assessment

Are there any clinical concerns?*

Yes

No

Repeat test in 1 to 2 hours

Saturation $\geq 95\%$
Pass
Ensure clinical examination is also normal

Saturation
90–94%

Saturation $< 90\%$
Refer for medical assessment

Are there any clinical concerns?*

Yes

No

Repeat test in 1 to 2 hours

Saturation $\geq 95\%$
Pass
Ensure clinical examination is also normal

Saturation $< 95\%$
Refer for medical assessment

*Clinical concerns at any stage warrant immediate referral to the medical team