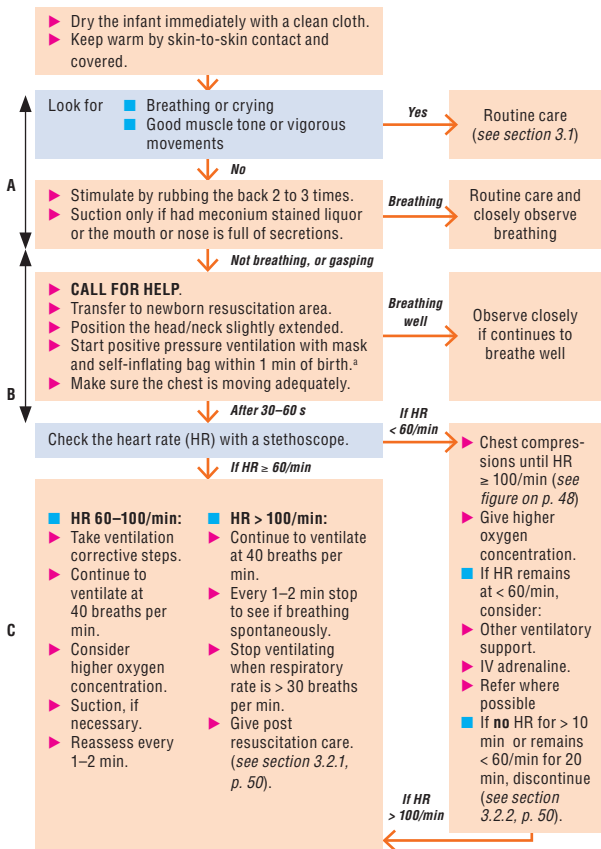


## Chart 12. Neonatal resuscitation: Flow chart



<sup>a</sup> Positive pressure ventilation should be initiated with air for infants with gestation > 32 weeks. For very preterm infants, it is preferable to start with 30% oxygen if possible.  
**A** and **B** are basic resuscitation steps

## Chart 12. Neonatal resuscitation: Steps and process

There is no need to slap the infant; rubbing the back two or three times in addition to thorough drying is enough for stimulation.

### A. Airway

- ▶ Keep the infant's head in a slightly extended position to open the airway.
- ▶ Do not suction routinely. Suction the airway if there is meconium-stained fluid **and** the infant is **not** crying and moving limbs. When the amniotic fluid is clear, suction only if the nose or mouth is full of secretions.
  - Suck the mouth, nose and oropharynx by direct vision; do not suck right down the throat, as this can cause apnoea or bradycardia.

### B. Breathing

- ▶ Choose a mask size that fits over the nose and mouth (see below): size 1 for normal-weight infant, size 0 for small (< 2.5 kg) infants
- ▶ Ventilate with bag and mask at 40–60 breaths/min.
- Make sure the chest moves up with each press on the bag; in a very small infant, make sure the chest does not move too much (danger of causing pneumothorax).

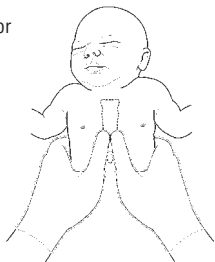
### C. Circulation

- ▶ Give chest compressions if the heart rate is < 60/min after 30–60 s of ventilation with adequate chest movements: 90 compressions coordinated with 30 breaths/min (three compressions: one breath every 2 s).
- ▶ Place thumbs just below the line connecting the nipples on the sternum (see below).
- ▶ Compress one third the anterior–posterior diameter of the chest.



**Correct head position to open up airway and for bag ventilation.**

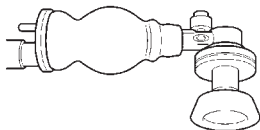
**Do not hyperextend the neck.**



**Correct position of hands for cardiac massage of a neonate. The thumbs are used for compression over the sternum.**

## Chart 12. Neonatal resuscitation

**Neonatal self-inflating resuscitation bag with round mask**



**Fitting mask over face:**

**Right size and position of mask**



**Right**

**Mask held too low**



**Wrong**

**Mask too small**



**Wrong**

**Mask too large**

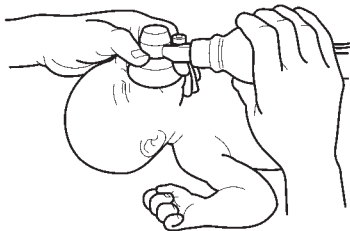


**Wrong**

**Ventilating a neonate with bag and mask**

**Pull the jaw forwards towards the mask with the third finger of the hand holding the mask.**

**Do not hyperextend the neck.**



**Inadequate seal**

If you hear air escaping from the mask, form a better seal. The commonest leak is between the nose and the cheeks.

