# **Unit II – Problem 5 – Handout #2: APGAR Score**

| <b>A</b> | P G | _ | R |
|----------|-----|---|---|

| Appearance                           | Pulse Gri      | mace Activity              | Respiration               |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sign                                 | 0              | 1                          | 2                         |
| Color (Appearance)                   | Blue or pale   | Pink with blue extremities | All pink                  |
| Heart Rate (Pulse)                   | Absent         | Under 100 beats/<br>minute | Over 100 beats/<br>minute |
| Response to nasal catheter (Grimace) | No response    | Grimace                    | Cough, sneezing           |
| Muscle tone<br>(Activity)            | Limp "flaccid" | Some flexion               | Active motion             |
| Respiration                          | Absent         | Slow, irregular            | Norma and crying          |

## - Rapid evaluation of the infant by APGAR score is done:

- At 1 minute: to decide the need and method for resuscitation وسائل الإنعاش
- At 5 minutes: to reflect the adequacy of your resuscitative efforts and to determine the need for further efforts.

### - Interpretation of APGAR score:

- Score > 7:
  - ✓ Indicates good general condition (no asphyxia: ليس هناك اختناق بسبب فقدان):
    - ❖ Maintain body temperature (by adequate wrapping of the baby).
    - ❖ Aseptic cutting of the umbilical cord.
    - ❖ Antibiotic eye drops.
    - ❖ Discharge after detailed examination.

#### • Score of 4-6:

- ✓ Indicates mild to moderate asphyxia:
  - ❖ Gentle suctioning of airways (to remove aspirated amniotic fluid).
  - ❖ Free oxygen inhalation (by mask).
  - ❖ Tactile stimulation of breathing by slapping the soles, rubbing the sternum or spine.
  - ❖ If still there is no response: bag & mask ventilation using 100% oxygen at rate of 40-60 breaths/ minute.

#### • Score < 4:

- ✓ <u>Indicates severe asphyxia:</u>
  - ❖ Endotracheal intubation and bag ventilation with 100% oxygen.
  - ❖ Proceed to cardiac massage at a rate of 120 beats/ minute if there is:
    - ➤ Heart Rate < 80 beats/ minute and not rising despite adequate ventilation.
    - ➤ Heart Rate < 50 beats/ minute at 1 minute.
    - Absent heart rate at birth unless macerated or extreme prematurity (< 500 grams).
  - ❖ If heart rate becomes greater than 80 beats/ minute and rising: stop cardiac massage and continue ventilation till spontaneous respiration is regained.
  - ❖ If no improvement: insert umbilical catheter and give resuscitative drugs (e.g. epinephrine).

