

# **Guideline for Hospital Admission**

## **Ministry of Public Health - Lebanon**

### **Bronchiolitis indications for admission**

Bronchiolitis mostly affects children under 2 years old. Most of such cases present with mild disease severity and do not usually require hospitalization.

Hospitalization for acute bronchiolitis may be recommended in the presence of the following signs and symptoms:

- Respiratory rate > 70 per minute
- Oxygen saturation < 94%
- Poor feeding in previous 24 hours
- Lethargy
- Cyanosis
- Nasal flaring or nasal grunting
- Severe chest wall recession

Hospitalization may be especially recommended in cases presenting with the above signs and symptoms and are:

- Infants less than 3 months old
- Infants born at less than 35 weeks gestation
- Infants with co-morbidities

It is important to assess whether the patient is in an early and possibly deteriorating stage of the illness, or in a late but improving stage, as well as the socio-economic factors to support treatment at home.

### **Exams and Tests**

Pulse oximetry should be taken on all children presenting with acute bronchiolitis, with hospitalization being necessary in infants with < 92% oxygen saturation.

### **References:**

Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network. Bronchiolitis in children, a national clinical guideline, 2006.

**Checklist:**

	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Respiratory rate > 70 per minute		
Oxygen saturation < 94%		
Poor feeding in previous 24 hours		
Lethargy		
Cyanosis		
Nasal flaring or nasal grunting		
Severe chest wall recession		
Infants less than 3 months old		
Infants born at < 35 weeks gestation		
Infants with co-morbidities		

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