



Paediatric Early Warning System Education Guidance

PEWS Implementation Leads and Trainers

Implementation leads* and trainers should expect to participate in, and lead, PEWS training, act as a resource to colleagues, and promote PEWS in the hospital. The selection of trainers is important. NCHD medical trainers should be selected in addition to the consultant PEWS lead, and should provide multidisciplinary education sessions together with the nominated nurse trainers. Multidisciplinary training is seen as key to ensuring successful team understanding of PEWS and responsibilities under the system. Nominated PEWS trainers should have experience in clinical education, including delivering lectures/talks, facilitating discussion and practical case presentation. Experience in simulation or skills training may be of particular advantage.

**see PEWS Implementation Guidance for additional information*

PEWS Champions

In addition to PEWS implementation leads and trainers, named PEWS champions are recommended to promote continued compliance, and facilitate queries from colleagues and parents. PEWS champions can assist local implementation leads with audit where appropriate.

Delivering PEWS Education Sessions

There are a series of steps required to prepare for PEWS education:

1. Adapt the PowerPoint® presentations and case studies to suit your clinical setting if required.
2. Book appropriate rooms and ICT (laptop & projector) for each training session. Each face-to-face training session will take approximately 3.5 hours.
3. Raise awareness locally about PEWS, and schedule the face-to-face training sessions for all medical and nursing staff. The number of participants at each session will depend on the number of trainers available locally.
4. Distribute the training manual to participants 1-2 weeks in advance of training to allow adequate time for completion of the required pre-learning component.
5. The quiz must be completed by all participants at the beginning of each training session. The aim of the quiz is to ensure that participants have read the PEWS manual before attending face-to-face training. *Quiz answer sheets do not need to be held on file.*
6. Deliver each education session. Usually one person will deliver the PowerPoint® presentation, and additional trainers may help facilitate the case studies.
7. At the end of each session, ask participants to complete a training evaluation.
8. All participants should receive a certificate of attendance. Training will be accredited for continuing education points.
9. Implement the charts when >75% of nursing staff in each relevant clinical area have completed training. In addition, medical staff involved in paediatric care should attend training on the PEWS system.
10. Audit and evaluate outcomes.

Education Resource Checklist

- ✓ PEWS manual
- ✓ Quiz question sheet (these must be collected and retained by the trainers)
- ✓ Candidate quiz answer sheet (2 copies per candidate)
- ✓ Instructor quiz answer sheet
- ✓ Slide set**, sample charts
- ✓ Case Studies: scenarios, facilitators cards, etc.
- ✓ Evaluations
- ✓ Certificates of attendance

** There are substantial notes outlined with the slide set to assist in presenting the material. These pages can be added to locally and may be printed as a resource for trainers.

Education Programme Outline

Pre-course Learning

Participants must complete the PEWS manual in advance.

3 Our Face-to-Face Education Session

Suggested timetable for each face-to-face education session is as follows:



Part 1: Registration and Pre-course quiz 10mins

- Students should complete the quiz and return to the trainer for marking

Part 2: Paediatric Early Warning System (PEWS) 60mins

- Slide presentation on PEWS
- Practical use of paediatric observation charts

Part 3: Communication and Management Plans 15mins

- Slide presentation on situation awareness, communication (ISBAR), appropriation documentation and formulation of management plans

Part 4: 'ABCDE' assessment 25mins

- Describe the ABCDE approach to paediatric assessment and particularly highlight the PEWS score parameters
- Use appropriate clinical examples

COMFORT BREAK

15mins

Part 5: Case Studies 60mins

- Facilitate case studies to allow students to put their learning into practice. There should be a minimum of two cases explored depending on the size of the group and number of instructors. All students should be encouraged to participate.
- Case studies/practical application of PEWS may be presented as a desktop exercise:
 - Instructor to present child's history and initial impression
 - Candidate/ candidate group should perform or discuss an ABCDE assessment, identify PEWS parameters and complete an age-specific observation chart and PEWS score
 - Candidate/candidate group should discuss clinical presentation of the child, score and escalation pathway as appropriate (discuss trends in vital signs in addition to absolute values)
 - Communicate to an appropriate MDT member using ISBAR
 - Describe the action plan to be recorded in the child's notes

Part 6: Post-course Quiz 15mins

- Students should now complete the same quiz on a new sheet. The answers can be discussed as a group and any incomplete knowledge addressed at this point.

Part 7: Conclusion, Q & A, and evaluation 10mins

- Ensure that participants have completed and returned their evaluation forms
- Invite outstanding questions and summarise learning
- Provide certificates