



# MATURATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF GESTATIONAL AGE (New Ballard Score)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOSPITAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH WEIGHT \_\_\_\_\_  
 RACE \_\_\_\_\_ LENGTH \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE/TIME OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ HEAD CIRC. \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE/TIME OF EXAM \_\_\_\_\_ EXAMINER \_\_\_\_\_  
 AGE WHEN EXAMINED \_\_\_\_\_  
 APGAR SCORE: 1 MINUTE \_\_\_\_\_ 5 MINUTES \_\_\_\_\_ 10 MINUTES \_\_\_\_\_

## NEUROMUSCULAR MATURITY

| NEUROMUSCULAR MATURITY SIGN        | SCORE |   |   |   |   |   |   | RECORD SCORE HERE |
|------------------------------------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
|                                    | -1    | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |                   |
| POSTURE                            |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |
| SQUARE WINDOW (Wrist)              |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |
| ARM RECOIL                         |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |
| POPLITEAL ANGLE                    |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |
| SCARF SIGN                         |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |
| HEEL TO EAR                        |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |
| TOTAL NEUROMUSCULAR MATURITY SCORE |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |

## SCORE

Neuromuscular \_\_\_\_\_  
 Physical \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total \_\_\_\_\_

## MATURITY RATING

| SCORE | WEEKS |
|-------|-------|
| -10   | 20    |
| -5    | 22    |
| 0     | 24    |
| 5     | 26    |
| 10    | 28    |
| 15    | 30    |
| 20    | 32    |
| 25    | 34    |
| 30    | 36    |
| 35    | 38    |
| 40    | 40    |
| 45    | 42    |
| 50    | 44    |

## PHYSICAL MATURITY

| PHYSICAL MATURITY SIGN        | SCORE                              |   |                                       |  |                                |                                    |                           | RECORD SCORE HERE |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
|                               | -1                                 | 0                                       | 1                                     | 2  | 3                              | 4                                  | 5                         |                   |
| SKIN                          | sticky friable transparent         | gelatinous red translucent              | smooth pink visible veins             | superficial peeling & / or rash, few veins | cracking pale areas rare veins | parchment deep cracking no vessels | leathery cracked wrinkled |                   |
| LANUGO                        | none                               | sparse                                  | abundant                              | thinning                                   | bald areas                     | mostly bald                        |                           |                   |
| PLANTAR SURFACE               | heel-toe 40-50 mm: -1 < 40 mm: -2  | >50 mm no crease                        | faint red marks                       | anterior transverse crease only            | creases ant. 2/3               | creases over entire sole           |                           |                   |
| BREAST                        | imperceptible                      | barely perceptible                      | flat areola no bud                    | stippled areola 1-2 mm bud                 | raised areola 3-4 mm bud       | full areola 5-10 mm bud            |                           |                   |
| EYE / EAR                     | lids fused loosely: -1 tightly: -2 | lids open pinna flat stays folded       | sl. curved pinna; soft; slow recoil   | well-curved pinna; soft but ready recoil   | formed & firm instant recoil   | thick cartilage ear stiff          |                           |                   |
| GENITALS (Male)               | scrotum flat, smooth               | scrotum empty faint rugae               | testes in upper canal rare rugae      | testes descending few rugae                | testes down good rugae         | testes pendulous deep rugae        |                           |                   |
| GENITALS (Female)             | clitoris prominent & labia flat    | prominent clitoris & small labia minora | prominent clitoris & enlarging minora | majora & minora equally prominent          | majora large minora small      | majora cover clitoris & minora     |                           |                   |
| TOTAL PHYSICAL MATURITY SCORE |                                    |   |                                       |  |                                |                                    |                           |                   |

## GESTATIONAL AGE (weeks)

By dates \_\_\_\_\_  
 By ultrasound \_\_\_\_\_  
 By exam \_\_\_\_\_

### Reference

Ballard JL, Khoury JC, Wedig K, et al: New Ballard Score, expanded to include extremely premature infants. *J Pediatr* 1991; 119:417-423. Reprinted by permission of Dr Ballard and Mosby-Year Book, Inc.

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