

Use of Form	To assess signs and symptoms of opioid and benzodiazepine withdrawal			
Eligibility	// Any extubated patient who exhibits signs of withdrawal // Potentially any neonate, infant or child who has received opioids and/or benzodiazepines for more than 5 days For ventilated patients use the ' <i>ITU Withdrawal Observation Chart</i> '			
Scoring interval	Every 4 hrs	// Score any signs observed within the period		// Write the score in the box for each scoring interval
SYMPTOMS				
■ Tremors	Score 1 if	// patient has tremors when disturbed		
■ Movement disorder	Score 1 if	// muscle twitches or choreoathetosis observed (ie. involuntary, irregular, dance-like, movements of arms, legs and face, or slow, twisting movements of hands, fingers, toes or feet)		
■ Hallucinations	Score 1 if	// hallucinations are reported by the older verbal child // disoriented behaviour observed in non-verbal child		
■ Crying or agitation	Score 1 if	// continuous unexplained crying or agitated behaviour for 1 hr or more // intermittent episodes that total 1 hour, despite efforts to console		
■ Eyes (pupils > 4 mm)	Score 1 if	// average pupil size > 4 mm		
■ Sweating (unexplained)	Score 1 if	// sweating is not related to environment or pyrexia (ie. room temperature, lights, clothing, etc)		
■ Diarrhoea	Score 1 if	// patient has unexplained diarrhoea // loose stools that appears unrelated to changes in feeding regimen (ie. do not score for 'breast milk stools') or infection		
TOTAL SCORES				
	Add the points for the scoring period. Write in the 'Total Score' box. Maximum total points = 7			
Clinical judgement (Withdrawal Yes/No)	Mark 'Y' if overall clinical judgement is that the child is experiencing withdrawal Mark 'N' if overall clinical judgement is that the child is not experiencing withdrawal This independent judgement may or may not match the 'Total Score'. If it does not, please add comments.			
Comments (please specify)	Comment on other symptoms such as // sleeplessness // hypertension // tachycardia // facial grimacing // poor social interaction // poor visual tracking // dystonic postures // tongue thrusting // any others you observe // anxiety as communicated by the older child Parents' perceptions may be included. Also note signs of withdrawal related to clinical treatment (eg. drugs that affect CNS / GI function).			
TREATMENT				
	Provide environmental and psychological support for all patients:			
	// rocking / rhythmic movements // quiet, darkened room // reassurance // swaddling and sucking for babies			
If score ≥ 3 consider	// slowing down rate of reduction of opioid or benzodiazepine // recommencing patient on an opioid or benzodiazepine (whichever was stopped most recently) // increasing the dose of opioid or benzodiazepine			
If score ≤ 2 consider	// Continuing to reduce opioid or benzodiazepine as per regime // If score < 2 for more than 48 hours, consider increasing speed of withdrawal			

