

PIPP Scale

Gestational age	≥ 36 weeks	32-35 weeks	28-31 weeks	< 28 weeks
Behavioral state	Active awake Eyes open Facial movements	Quiet awake Eyes open No facial movements	Active sleep Eyes closed Facial movements	Quiet sleep Eyes closed No facial movements
Maximum heart rate	0–4 BPM increase	5-14 BPM increase	15-24 BPM increase	≥ 25 BPM increase
Minimum oxygen saturation	0-2.4% decrease	2.5-4.9 % decrease	5.0-7.4% decrease	≥ 7.5% decrease
Brow bulge	None 0-9% of time	Minimum 10-39% of time	Moderate 40–69% of time	Maximum ≥ 70% of time
Eye squeeze	None 0-9% of time	Minimum 10-39% of time	Moderate 40–69% of time	Maximum ≥ 70% of time
Nasolabial furrow	None 0-9% of time	Minimum 10-39% of time	Moderate 40–69% of time	Maximum ≥ 70% of time

The PIPP scale is used for infants < or = 37 weeks of gestation. To use the PIPP scale, the behavioral state is scored by observing the infant for 15 seconds immediately before and after a painful event, and before and after pain medication is given (30 minutes after intravenous and 1 hour after oral medication). The baseline heart rate, oxygen saturation, and facial expression are assessed. Any changes from baseline should be noted for 30 seconds. The total pain score is then calculated:

- 6 or less = Minimal to no pain
- 7-12 = Mild pain
- >12 = Moderate to severe pain