

Risk 142 – Preterm or Early Term Delivery

Risk description

Infants and children under 24 months of age who were born before 39 weeks gestation.

Reason for risk

Preterm birth is defined as delivery at less than 37 weeks gestation. Early term birth is defined as delivery during the 37th or 38th week of gestation. Preterm birth is a leading cause of infant mortality. Babies born too early often have numerous health problems including physical conditions that interfere with intake and digestion that impacts ability to meet their high nutritional needs for increased growth.

Category	Infants, Children under 24 months
Risk level	Medium
At risk if:	Infant or child was born before 39 weeks gestation and is under 24 months of age
Not at risk if:	Infant or child was born at or after 39 weeks gestation OR Child is 24 months of age or older
How is risk assigned?	Data system assigned based on the number of weeks gestation entered into the data system.
Additional documentation	Documenting weeks gestation in the data system generates age adjusted growth charts for reference.