

Admission note in pediatric ward

Admission note:

- Present illness and chief complaint: mention who brought the child, exactly the same patient's complaint. Remember infant cannot complain from some symptoms such as headache, anorexia, dysuria and nausea.
- Source of history
- Complete present Hx (explain completely in time order, mention the duration of symptoms the quality and severity of them, positive and negative important pertinent points)
- Past Hx: for infants and small children (prenatal, natal, postnatal illness and medicine), for older children (previous sickness, admission, medicine)
- Family Hx (consanguinity between parents, any illness in the family)
- Growth (feeding Hx) and development
- Vaccination
- Identifying data
- Source of history
- ROS

P/E:

General appearance:

Acutely ill, chronic ill, malnourished, well developed, well nourished, drowsy, respiratory distress

Vital signs and measurements:

Temperature, pulse rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure

Weight, head and chest circumference, length or height

Head and Neck

Anterior and posterior fontanel: measurement, closed, bulging, tense, fullness, depressed

Skull sutures: closed, wide separated

Transillumination for hydrocephalus

The nose and throat

Teeth

Soft and hard palate

Tonsils

Ear

Shape

Otoscopy: TM color, light reflex, congestion

CNS

Depends on the patients diagnosis

GCS (if the pt is intubated: i.e. T₊₅)

-Pupils' size and reaction

- Ophtalmoscopy and red reflex

- Position (decelerate or decorticate)

- DTR

- Cranial nerves exams (depends on patient's age)

- Plantar reflexes

Respiratory:

- Chest wall (shape, movement, retraction)
- Breathing (rate, sound, chest expansion with respiration,...)
- Last ABG (PH, HCO₃, PCO₂)
- Intubated (when, tube size, length) or Extubated (when, How incidentally or elective)

CVS: (Cardiovascular system)

If the patient is in pre-shock or shock state this part must be full completed

- Ext (warm, cool, well perfused,...)
- Peripheral pulses: (compare to central pulses)
- Capillary filling
- Heart sounds, apical pulse, murmurs, thrills
- Mucosa (pink or cyanosis)

Abdomen

- Liver size, spleen size,
- Mass
- Bowel sounds, distention
- Fluid
- Percussion

Extremities

- Movement (flaccid or spastic)
- Muscle mass
- Deformity
- Joints P/E (movements, swelling, hotness, redness,...)

Skin

- Color
- Pigmentation, nevus
- Petechial, purpura, ecchymosis
- Rash

The genitalia

Cryptorchidism, retractile testis, hydrocele, inguinal hernia

Lymph nodes

- Site, number, size, movement of fixed
-

Plan or goal for the day

For example:

- Emergency sonography
- General surgery consult
- Follow the cultures result

These topics must be documented by physician (GP, Resident, fellowship) the in as short note immediately after being done.

Intubation

- *What time*
- *Tube size and length*
- *Anesthesia, sedation being used (name, dose)*

Extubation

- *What time*
- *Elective, incidentally*
- *Eventful, uneventful*

Convulsion

- *What time*
- *How long*
- *Type of seizure*
- *Medication used*

Resuscitation

- *What time*
- *Cardiac or respiratory*
- *How long*
- *Medication used*
- *Successful or not*