

CARDIMAKE

Some of the Primary Heart Examination Vital Signs

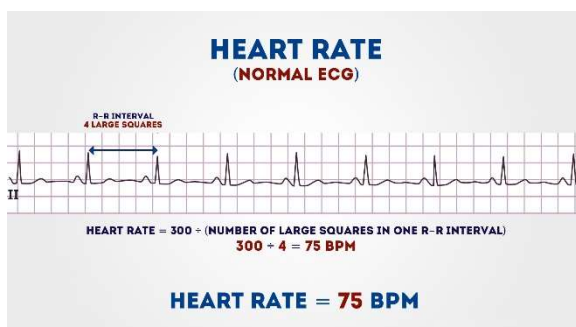
- Blood pressure
- Heart rate and rhythm
- Respiratory rate
- Temperature
- Vital signs include patient weight and peripheral oxygen saturation (SpO2).



Blood pressure (BP) is measured in both arms and, for suspected congenital cardiac disorders or peripheral vascular disorders, in both legs. The bladder of an appropriately sized cuff encircles 80% of the limb's circumference, and the bladder's width is 40% of the circumference. The first sound heard as the mercury column falls is systolic pressure; disappearance of the sound is diastolic pressure

(5th-phase Korotkoff sound). Up to a 15 mm Hg pressure differential between the right and left arms is normal; a greater differential suggests a vascular abnormality (eg, dissecting thoracic aorta) or a peripheral vascular disorder. Leg pressure is usually 20 mm Hg higher than arm pressure. To obtain an accurate blood pressure measurement, the patient should: -

- Be seated in a chair (not on the examination table) for > 5 minutes, feet on floor, back supported.
- Have the limb supported at heart level with no clothing covering the area of cuff placement.
- Abstain from exercising, consuming caffeine, or smoking for at least 30 minutes before the measurement is taken.



Heart rate and rhythm are assessed by palpating the carotid or radial pulse or by cardiac auscultation if arrhythmia is suspected; some heartbeats during arrhythmias may be audible but do not generate a palpable pulse.



Respiratory rate, if abnormal, may indicate cardiac decompensation or a primary lung disorder. The rate increases in patients with heart failure or anxiety and decreases or becomes intermittent in the moribund. Shallow, rapid respirations may indicate pleuritic pain.

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Temperature may be elevated by acute rheumatic fever or cardiac infection (eg, endocarditis). After a myocardial infarction, low grade fever is very common. Other causes are sought only if fever persists > 72 hours.

THE MENTIONED EXAMINATION FOR HEART DISEASE ARE DEFINED AS A HEALTH AWARENESS

This information is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always seek the advice of your Physician or other qualified health professionals regarding any medical condition.

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