**S4 Table. Additional predictor variables proposed in Step 3 (N=64). Displays decision to include (N=39) or exclude (N=25) from the common data element set, and exclusion reason or importance tier as applicable.**

| Variable | Status | Reason for exclusion | Tier |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Patient Characteristics** | | | |
| Admission within 6 months (reported) | Included | | 1 |
| Number of times hospitalized within 6 months (reported) | Included | | 2* |
| Length of Illness prior to seeking help (days, reported) | Included | | 2* |
| Prior care for this illness | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Mode of transport to hospital | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| History of fever | Included | | 1 |
| **Pregnancy/Birth Details** | | | |
| Birth weight | Included | | 1 |
| Gestational age | Included | | 1 |
| Mode of delivery | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Details of cord after birth | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Number of antenatal care visits | Included | | 2* |
| **Sociodemographic Information** | | | |
| Primary caregiver | Included | | 1 |
| Primary caregiver sex | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Primary caregiver age | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Primary caregiver marital status | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Maternal age at first pregnancy | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Mother acutely ill | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Maternal chronic illness requiring ongoing treatment or follow- up (HIV, TB, mental illness, etc.) | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Maternal substance use in last 30 days (check all that apply) | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Maternal HIV treatment status | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Non-exclusive breastfeeding details | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Number of people in child's house | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Cooking fuel | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Cooking location | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Lighting | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| Smoking | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| **Vitals** | | | |
| Modality of oxygen delivery | Included | | 2 |
| Flow of oxygen delivered | Included | | 2 |
| Fractional inspired oxygen | Included | | 2 |
| **Clinical Signs/Symptoms** | | | |
| **Respiratory** | | | |
| Inability to feed because of respiratory problems (reported) | Included | | 2 |
| Inability to sit or stand because of respiratory problems (reported) | Included | | 2 |
| Deep breathing (observed) | Excluded | Measurement Reliability | |
| Cough (observed) | Included | | 1 |
| Tracheal tug (observed) | Included | | 2 |
| **Circulation/Perfusion** | | | |
| Lower limb temperature gradient | Included | | 2* |
| **Dehydration** | | | |
| Changes in urine colour | Excluded | Low perceived predictive value | |
| **Neurological** | | | |
| Irritability/restlessness (observed) | Included | | 2 |
| Eye movement (Blantyre Coma Scale) (observed) | Excluded | Measurement Reliability | |

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| Best motor response (Blantyre Coma Scale) (observed) | Excluded | Measurement Reliability | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Best verbal response (Blantyre Coma Scale) (observed) | Excluded | Measurement Reliability | |
| **Infection** | | | |
| Muscle tone | Excluded | Measurement Reliability | |
| TB contact | Excluded | Measurement Reliability | |
| **Laboratory Testing** | | | |
| HIV testing | Included | | 1 |
| Lactate (mmol/L) | Included | | 2 |
| Bilirubin measurement | Included | | 2 |
| WBC | Included | | 2 |
| pH | Included | | 3 |
| Potassium (mmol/L) | Included | | 3 |
| Base excess (mmol/L) | Included | | 3 |
| Nasopharyngeal swab | Included | | 3 |
| **Treatments Received Prior to Study** | | | |
| Receipt of antibiotics prior to recruitment | Included | | 2 |
| Receipt of antipyretics prior to recruitment | Included | | 2 |
| Receipt of IV fluids prior to recruitment | Included | | 2 |
| Receipt of other medication prior to recruitment | Included | | 3 |
| Route of antibiotics | Included | | 3 |
| Type of antibiotic | Included | | 3 |
| Time since last antibiotic | Included | | 3 |
| Time since last antipyretic | Included | | 3 |
| Type of antipyretic | Included | | 3 |
| Route of medication | Included | | 3 |
| Type of medication | Included | | 3 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Visit to any healthcare provider prior to recruitment | Included | | 3 |
| What type of healthcare provider | Included | | 3 |
| Number of providers | Included | | 3 |

*Consensus for tiering achieved post-discussion (Step 5).