

Title: Coping with Labor Algorithm© Pain Assessment		Guideline	
Patient Age Group:	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> All Ages	<input type="checkbox"/> Newborns <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pediatric <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adult

DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW

The purpose of this Coping with Labor Algorithm© Pain Assessment Guideline is to guide the nurse with assessment and steer the obstetric nurse through the many pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic options available to the laboring patient. The intent of the Coping with Labor Algorithm© is to meet the labor pain assessment needs of laboring women and manage the labor pain according to the algorithm and patient's desires. This algorithm is specific only to labor pain. Any other type of pain will be assessed according to the current hospital pain assessment guideline. "This algorithm enables a woman to avoid quantifying her pain during labor, which is only one component of her overall labor and birth experience. The Coping with Labor Algorithm has proven to be a useful tool in the assessment and management of laboring woman." (Roberts, Gulliver, Fisher, & Cloyes, 2010).

REFERENCES

- Gulliver, B. G., Fisher, J., & Roberts, L. (2008). A New Way to Assess Pain in Laboring Women: Replacing the Rating Scale With a "Coping" Algorithm. *Nursing for Womens Health*, 12(5), 404-408. doi:10.1111/j.1751-486x.2008.00364.x
- Roberts, L., Gulliver, B., Fisher, J., & Cloyes, K. G. (2010). The Coping With Labor Algorithm: An Alternate Pain Assessment Tool for the Laboring Woman. *Journal of Midwifery & Womens Health*, 55(2), 107-116. doi:10.1016/j.jmwh.2009.11.002

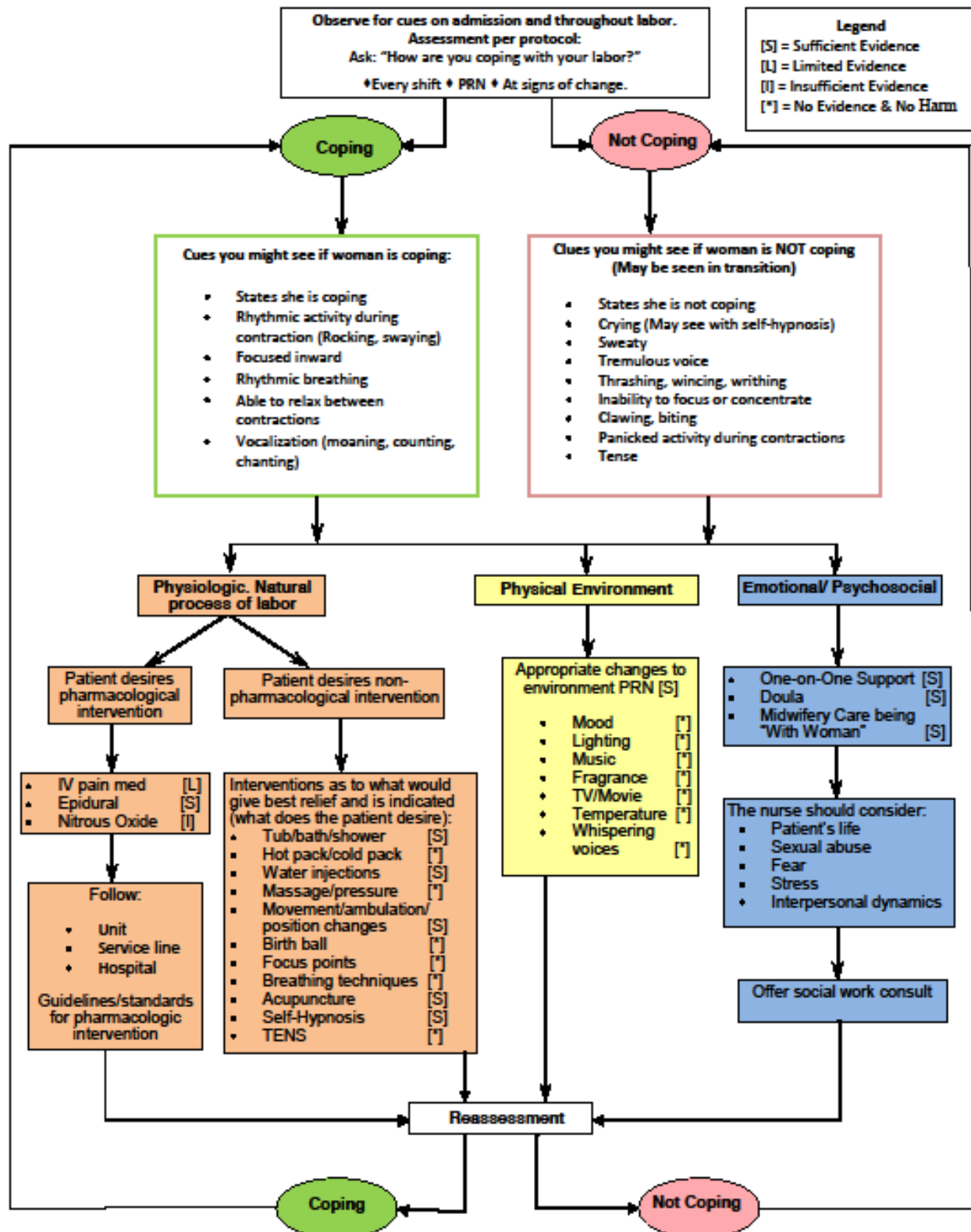
AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Labor and Delivery
 OB Testing and Triage

GUIDELINE PROCEDURES

1. The nurse will follow the Coping with Labor Algorithm©. See algorithm below.
 - 1.1. Coping assessment will be conducted on all patients upon arrival/admission to the hospital, when a patient's condition changes, or care provider changes.
 - 1.2. Coping reassessment occurs after every intervention, including non-pharmacologic techniques. The type of the intervention and route of administration will dictate the time frame for reassessment.
 - 1.3. The patient may request pharmacologic and/or non-pharmacologic interventions for labor pain at any time during her labor regardless of coping status.
 - 1.4. When pharmacologic interventions are requested by the patient and/or offered by the nurse, the patient will be educated on their options and allowed to choose the option they desire.

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2. Documentation

- 2.1. Coping assessments will be documented in the electronic medical record utilized on Labor and Delivery.
- 2.2. Pharmacologic interventions will be documented on the hospital-wide electronic MAR.

DEFINITIONS

Coping with Labor – A woman's perception of experiencing labor pain without suffering.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This is a new guideline

RESOURCES/TRAINING

Training is incorporated into the new-hire orientation of new nurses.

Resource/Dept	Contact Information

DOCUMENT APPROVAL & TRACKING

Item	Contact	Date	Approval
Owner	[Unit Director and UBE, Labor and Delivery]		
Consultant(s)	N/A		
Committee(s)	N/A		[Y or N/A]
Nursing Officer	[Sheena Ferguson], Chief Nursing Officer		[Y or N/A]
Medical Director	[Name, Department (or Chief Medical Officer)]		[Y or N/A]
Human Resources	N/A		[Y or N/A]
Finance	N/A		[Y or N/A]
Official Approver	[Michelle Wafer, Executive Director, Women's Area]		Y
Official Signature		Date:	
Effective Date			May, 2018
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Issue Date	Clinical Operations Policy Coordinator		