

State Behavioral Scale (SBS)¹		
Score as patient's response to voice then touch then noxious stimuli		
(Planned ETT suctioning or <5 seconds of nail bed pressure)		
Score	Description	Definition
-3	Unresponsive	No spontaneous respiratory effort No cough or coughs only with suctioning No response to noxious stimuli Unable to pay attention to care provider Does not distress with any procedure (including noxious) Does not move
-2	Responsive to noxious stimuli	Spontaneous yet supported breathing Coughs with suctioning/repositioning Responds to noxious stimuli Unable to pay attention to care provider Will distress with a noxious procedure Does not move/occasional movement of extremities or shifting of position
-1	Responsive to gentle touch or voice	Spontaneous but ineffective non-supported breaths Coughs with suctioning/repositioning Responds to touch/voice Able to pay attention but drifts off after stimulation Distresses with procedures Able to calm with comforting touch or voice when stimulus removed Occasional movement of extremities or shifting of position
0	Awake and Able to calm	Spontaneous and effective breathing Coughs when repositioned/Occasional spontaneous cough Responds to voice/No external stimulus is required to elicit response Spontaneously pays attention to care provider Distresses with procedures Able to calm with comforting touch or voice when stimulus removed Occasional movement of extremities or shifting of position/increased movement (restless, squirming)
+1	Restless and difficult to calm	Spontaneous effective breathing/Having difficulty breathing with ventilator Occasional spontaneous cough Responds to voice/ No external stimulus is required to elicit response Drifts off/ Spontaneously pays attention to care provider Intermittently unsafe Does not consistently calm despite 5 minute attempt/unable to console Increased movement (restless, squirming)
+2	Agitated	May have difficulty breathing with ventilator Coughing spontaneously No external stimulus required to elicit response Spontaneously pays attention to care provider Unsafe (biting ETT, pulling at lines, cannot be left alone) Unable to console Increased movement (restless, squirming or thrashing side-to-side, kicking legs)

(1) Curley, M.A.Q., Harris, S. K., Fraser, K., Johnson, R., & Arnold, J.H. (2006). State behavioral scale: A sedation assessment instrument for infants and young children supported on mechanical ventilation. *Pediatric Critical Care Medicine*, 7(2), 107-114.