Equipment checklist - Birth to 2 years

The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne

Infant Scale

- Use a levelled pan scale
- Either high quality electronic digital or beam balance
- Portable or 'fixed' options are suitable
- Scale should weigh up to 20 kg, in 0.01 kg (10 gm) increments
- Tray needs to be large enough to support children up to 2 years of age
- Motion detector and stabilizer
- No length or stature device should be attached because they do not have a stable platform.
- Clean the scales regularly

Service the scale (including calibration) according to manufacturers' guidelines. This is usually annually or more frequently if the scales are moved regularly; or there are concerns about accuracy

A scale for weighing infants should have a large enough tray to support the infant and weigh up to 20 kg

Infant length-board (Infantometer)

- Length is measured in the recumbent position using an infantometer (infant length board) designed for the purpose
- The board should have a firm, flat horizontal surface with a measuring tape in 1 mm (0.1 cm) increments
- The tape or measurements should be fixed, and easily read
- The device has a fixed head-board at right angle to the tape
- And a smoothly-moving foot-board perpendicular to the tape

Length board should be sturdy, easily cleaned and designed for the purpose of measuring infant length

Head Circumference Tape

- Head circumference should be measured using a flexible, non-stretchable measuring tape or disposable paper tape
- ensure the tape is clean after each use
- replace the plastic tape at least yearly, or more often if needed.
- 0.5 1.0 cm width and 0.1 cm increments



