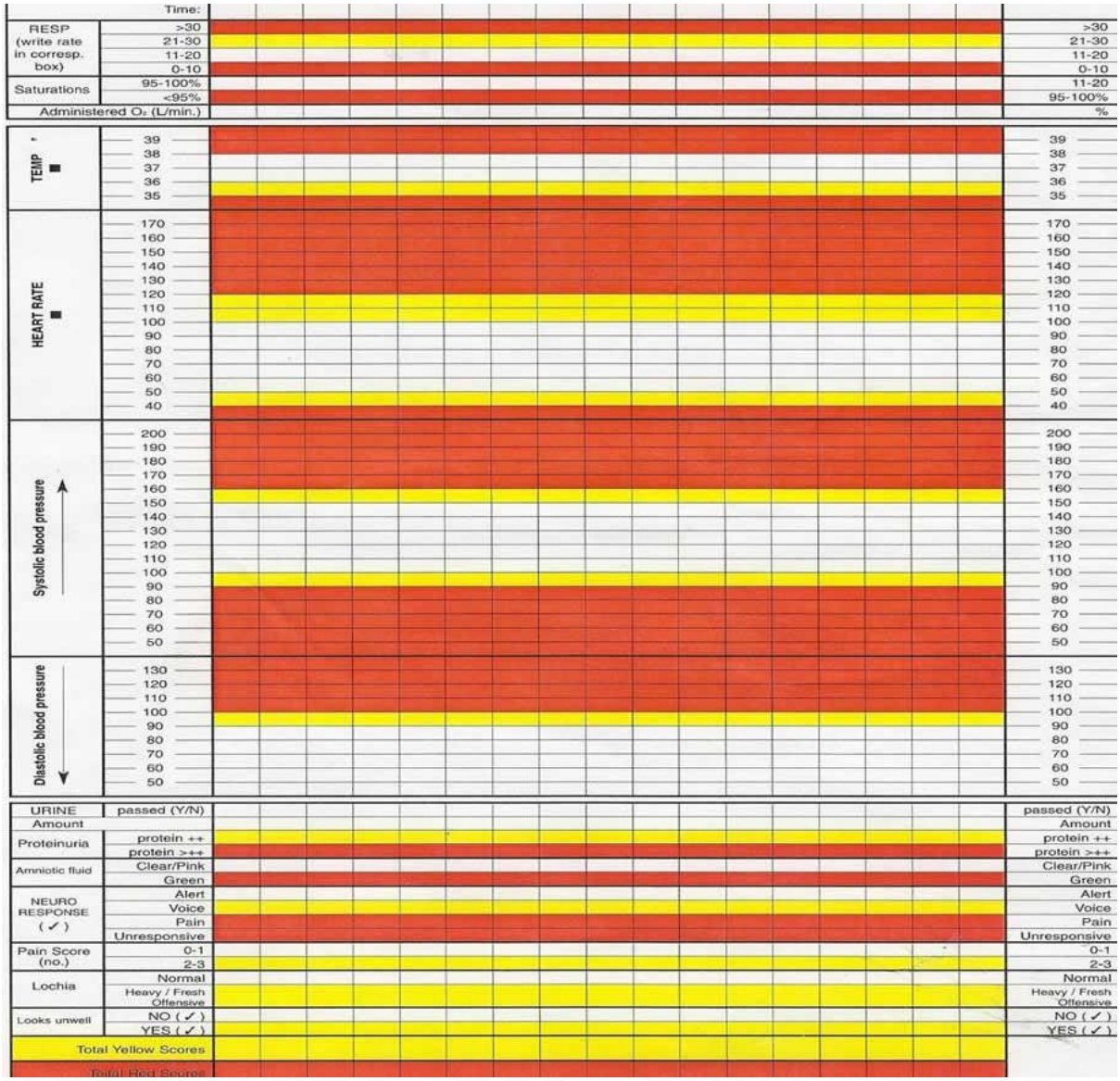
The Modified Early Obstetric Warning Score (MEOWS)

The Modified Early Obstetric Warning Score (MEOWS) enables early recognition of physical deterioration in pregnant, birthing and postnatal women by monitoring their physiological vital signs.

MEOWS is a score attributed to record these signs and documented on the MEOWS observation chart. The score, indicated by white (normal range) Yellow (alert range) and (red immediate action range). Meaning that the further away from 'normal' the vital signs are the higher the score. A score ≥ 3 triggers the use of a 'call out cascade' giving specific instructions regarding level of monitoring, referral for advice, review, and immediate actions to be considered.

This tool should be used a part of an overall assessment rather than relied on as a standalone sign of pending problems.