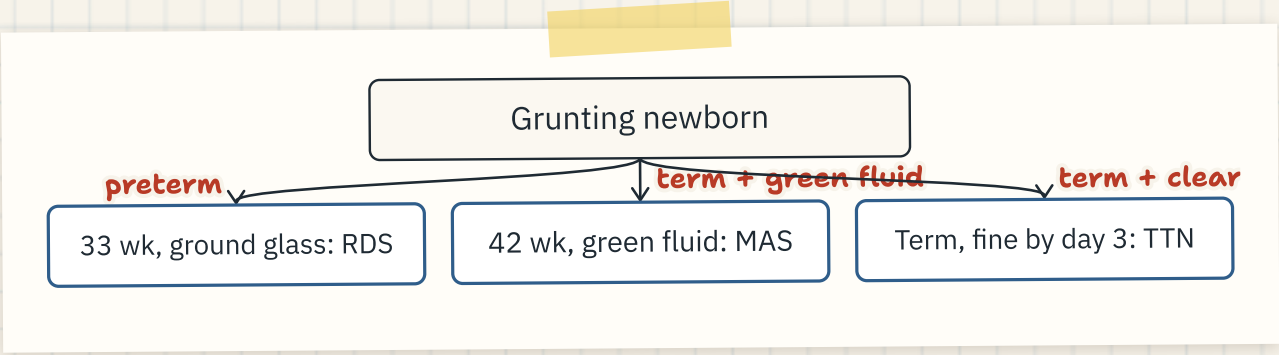
Newborn respiratory distress

TTN vs RDS vs meconium aspiration



Step by step

1. Term or preterm?
2. Green fluid at birth?
3. Read the X-ray pattern
4. Note how fast it settles

Condition	Baby	X-ray
TTN	Term, fluid cleared slowly; settles in 1–3 days	Hyperinflation, perihilar streaks, fissure fluid
RDS	Preterm, surfactant deficiency	Poor expansion, ground glass, air bronchograms
MAS	Term or post-term, meconium-stained fluid	Hyperinflation, coarse patches

Risk factors and X-ray

Rule of thumb

Preterm plus ground glass: surfactant missing

Green fluid plus patches: meconium

Term, fine by day three: retained fluid

Exam traps

- MAS can cause air leak (10–30%) and persistent pulmonary hypertension.
- Ground glass and air bronchograms are late signs of RDS, often prevented by early treatment.
- Routine suctioning for meconium at birth is no longer recommended.

For exam study only, not medical advice. Follow local guidelines and your lab's ranges.
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