

Factors that Promote Apnea in the Premature Infant

- Airway obstruction such as with mucus or poor positioning
- Anemia
- Dehydration
- Cooling or overheating of the infant
- Hypoglycemia or low blood sugar
- Hypocalcemia or low calcium levels
- Infection
- Seizures
- Increased vagal tone which comes about from too much tracheal suctioning
- Depression of the respiratory center from drugs (infant or maternal)
- Hemorrhages within the brain
- Heart problems including patent ductus arteriosus or congestive heart failure
- Congenital defects of the upper airway