

**HEMISPHERIC
STROKE
SCALE**

Patient Name: _____

Rater Name: _____

Date: _____

Scored to give 0 (= good) to 100 (= bad)

Score

LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS

15 – Glasgow Coma Scale Score

LANGUAGE

Comprehension

Give three commands:

‘Stick out your tongue’ *or* ‘Close your eyes’

‘Point to the door’

‘Place left/right hand on left/right ear and then on left/right knee (using unaffected side)’

Score on number correctly followed:

0 = 5

1 = 4

2 = 2

3 = 0

Naming

Ask patient to name the following items:

Watch *or* Belt

Watch strap *or* Belt buckle

Index finger *or* Ring finger

Score on number correctly named:

0 = 5

1 = 4

2 = 2

3 = 0

Repetition

Ask the patient to repeat the following:

A single word, such as ‘dog’ or ‘cat’

‘The president lives in Washington’

‘No ifs, ands, or buts’

Score on number repeated:

0 = 5

1 = 4

2 = 2

3 = 0

Page 1 TOTAL

Fluency

Score according to patient’s spontaneous speech fluency, *or*
Ask patient to name as many words as he can within one minute beginning with the letter ‘A’ (excluding proper names)

Score as:

- 5 = Essentially no verbal output
- 3 = Moderately loss; inability to recognize stationary finger, sees moving finger
- 1 = Mild loss; defect to double simultaneous stimulation
- 0 = Normal

OTHER CORTICAL FUNCTIONS AND CRANIAL NERVES

Visual fields

Test clinically and score hemi-field loss as:

- 3 = Severe loss; inability to recognize moving hand, no response to threat
- 2 = Moderate loss; inability to recognize stationary finger, sees moving finger
- 1 = Mild loss: defect to double simultaneous stimulation
- 0 = Normal

Gaze

Score eye movements:

- 2 = Gaze play, or persistent deviation
- 1 = Gaze preference, or difficulty with far lateral gaze
- 0 = Normal

Facial expression

Score movement:

- 3 = Severe weakness; drooling
- 2 = Moderate loss; asymmetry at rest
- 1 = Mild weakness; asymmetry on smiling
- 0 = Normal

Dysarthria

Score talking:

- 2 = Severe dysarthria
- 1 = Moderate dysarthria
- 0 = Normal

Dysphagia

Score swallow of glass water:

- 2 = Severe dysphagia
- 1 = Moderate dysphagia
- 0 = Normal

Neglect syndrome

Ask about weak limbs, *and* ask to bisect a line 7 inches (20 cm) long on piece of paper in visual midline

Score:

- 2 = Anosagnosia, or denial of body part
- 1 = Consistently bisects line towards ‘good’ side of body
- 0 = Bisects line in middle

Visual construction

Ask patient to copy three figure given, and score:

- 3 = Unable to copy any figure
- 2 = Can copy a square
- 1 = Can copy a ‘Greek Cross’ (‘Cross of St. George’)
- 0 = Can copy 3D drawing of cube

MOTOR FUNCTION

Arm, proximal

Arm, distal

Leg, proximal

Leg, distal

All scored 0-7 as:

- 7 = No movement (MRC 0)
- 6 = Trace movement only (MRC 1)
- 5 = Motion without gravity only (MRC 2)
- 4 = Moves against gravity but not against resistance (MRC 3)
- 3 = Moderate weakness (MRC 4 -)
- 2 = Mild weakness (MRC 4)
- 1 = Positive drift of arm/leg (MRC 4 +)
- 0 = Normal (MRC 5)

Deep tendon reflexes

- 2 = Hypoactive *or* hyperactive
- 0 = Normal

Pathologic reflexes

- 2 = Babinski (plantar) *and* another abnormal
- 1 = Babinski (plantar) *or* another abnormal
- 0 = Normal

Muscle tone

- 2 = Increased *or* decreased
- 0 = Normal

Gait

Test ability to stand and walk, and score:

- 6 = Unable to stand unsupported *or* cannot evaluate
- 5 = Can stand with support but cannot walk
- 4 = Severely abnormal; walking distance limited even with support (from aid or person)
- 3 = Moderately abnormal; no assistance required (apart from a stick/cane), but distance limited
- 2 = Mildly abnormal (weak, uncoordinated); can walk independently but slowly
- 1 = Minimally abnormal, no reduction in speed or distance
- 0 = Normal

SENSORY

Primary modalities (of affected side only), arm

Test touch, pain and score as:

- 4 = Anaesthesia
- 3 = Severe hypaesthesia
- 2 = Moderate hypaesthesia or deficit only; *or* extinction to double simultaneous stimulation
- 1 = Mild hypaesthesia or dysaesthesia
- 0 = Normal

Page 3 TOTAL

Stereoagnosis

Test ability to distinguish two coins and a key, and score: _____

3 = Unable to achieve any distinctions

2 = Can distinguish a coin from a key

1 = Can distinguish between two very different sized coins (penny and ten-pence piece, penny and quarter)

0 = Can distinguish between two similar sized coins (penny and nickel, or two-pence piece and ten-pence piece)

Page 4 TOTAL _____

OVERALL TOTAL _____

Reference

Adams RJ, Meador KJ, Sethi KD, Grotta JC, Thomson DS. “Graded neurologic scale for use in acute hemispheric stroke treatment protocols.”

[Stroke. 1987;18:665-9.](#)