GLASGOW COMA SCALE : Do it this way



Institute of Neurological Sciences NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde



Eye opening

Criterion	Observed	Rating	Score
Open before stimulus	✓	Spontaneous	4
After spoken or shouted request	✓	To sound	3
After finger tip stimulus	✓	To pressure	2
No opening at any time, no interfering factor	✓	None	1
Closed by local factor	✓	Non testable	NT

Verbal response

Criterion	Observed	Rating	Score
Correctly gives name, place and date	✓	Orientated	5
Not orientated but communication coherently	✓	Confused	4
Intelligible single words	✓	Words	3
Only moans / groans	✓	Sounds	2
No audible response, no interfering factor	✓	None	1
Factor interferring with communication	✓	Non testable	NT

Best motor response

Criterion	Observed	Rating	Score
Obey 2-part request	✓	Obeys commands	6
Brings hand above clavicle to stimulus on head neck	✓	Localising	5
Bends arm at elbow rapidly but features not predominantly abnormal	✓	Normal flexion	4
Bends arm at elbow, features clearly predominantly abnormal	✓	Abnormal flexion	3
Extends arm at elbow	✓	Extension	2
No movement in arms / legs, no interfering factor	✓	None	1
Paralysed or other limiting factor	✓	Non testable	NT

Features of Flexion Responses

Sites For Physical Stimulation

Modified with permission from Van Der Naalt 2004 Finger tip pressure **Trapezius Pinch** Supraorbital notch Ned Tijdschr Geneeskd **Abnormal Flexion** Normal flexion Rapid Slow Sterotyped Variable Arm across chest NINNINI MILLI Arm away from body Forearm rotates Thumb clenched Leg extends

For further information and video demonstration visit www.glasgowcomascale.org

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