

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH STROKE SCALE (NIHSS)

- > Use only Glasgow Coma Scale when patient is unresponsive or by staff who is NOT trained in NIHSS.
- Record baseline NIHSS total score on the *Stroke Centres Emergency Standard Orders Transcribed* (CLI.4110.PL.013.FORM.08).

 □ NIHSS Monitoring for Patients Receiving Alteplase (tPA) □ NIHSS Monitoring for Patients with Acute Stroke Not Receiving Alteplase (tPA) 			
 □ On admission/prior to start of Alteplase (tPA) □ At completion of Alteplase (tPA) infusion □ Q4h until 24 hours post – Alteplase (tPA) infusion □ Daily X 2 more days 	 □ On admission to Emergency Department □ On transfer to Inpatient Unit □ Once daily X 2 more days 		

		Date			
		Time			
Item	Name	Response	Baseline in ED		
1A	Level of Consciousness	0 = Alert. 1 = Not Alert – arouses with minor stimulation. 2 = Not Alert – requires repeated or strong stimulation. 3 = Unresponsive/reflex posturing.			
1B	Level of Questions	0 = Answers both questions correctly. 1 = Answers one question correctly. 2 = Answers neither correctly.			
1C	Level of Consciousness Commands	 0 = Performs both tasks correctly. 1 = Performs one task correctly. 2 = Performs neither task correctly. 			
2	Best Gaze Pre-existing blindness or other disorders of visual acuity	0 = Normal. 1 = Partial gaze palsy – abnormal in one or both eyes. 2 = Total gaze paralysis.			
3	Visual Fields	 0 = No visual loss. 1 = Partial blindness/disturbance in one field. 2 = Complete blindness/disturbance in one field. 3 = Complete blindness/disturbance in both visual fields. 			



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		Date				
		Time				
Item	Name	Response	Baseline in ED			
4	Facial Palsy	0 = Normal; symmetrical. 1 = Minor paralysis; asymmetry on smiling. 2 = Partial paralysis – of lower face. Complete paralysis of one or both sides of face.				
5	Arm Motor Left (L) Right (R)	0 = No drift for 10 sec. 1 = Drift under 10 sec. 2 = Some effort against gravity.	L	L	L	L
		3 = No effort against gravity. 4 = No movement. UN = Amputation or joint fusion.	R	R	R	R
6	Leg Motor Left (L) Right (R)	0 = No drift for 5 sec. 1 = Drift under 5 sec. 2 = Some effort against gravity.	L	L	L	L
		3 = No effort against gravity. 4 = No movement. UN = Amputation or joint fusion.	R	R	R	R
7	Limb Ataxia: with eyes open, intact visual field; finger-nose-finger and heel-shin test.	0 = Absent. 1 = Present in one limb. 2 = Present in two or more limbs. UN = Amputation or joint fusion.				
8	Sensory	0 = Normal; no loss. 1 = Mild to moderate loss. 2 = Severe to total loss.				
9	Best Language	 0 = No aphasia. 1 = Mild to moderate aphasia. 2 = Severe aphasia. 3 = Mute or global aphasia. 				
10	Dysarthria	 0 = Normal articulation. 1 = Mild to moderate dysarthria. 2 = Severe dysarthria. UN = Intubated or other physical barrier. 				
11	Extinction/ Inattention	0 = Normal Visual, tactile, auditory, spatial or personal inattention. Profound hemi-inattention to more				
		than one modality Total Score:				
		Assessment Completed By:				