

Columbian Rating Scale

Tremor

Arm (score right and left)

- 0 = Absent
- 1 = Slight, and infrequently present
- 2 = Moderate in amplitude, but only intermittently present
- 3 = Moderate and present most of the time
- 4 = Marked in amplitude and present most of the time

Head

- 0 = Absent
- 1 = Slight, and infrequently present
- 2 = Moderate in amplitude, but only intermittently present
- 3 = Moderate and present most of the time
- 4 = Marked in amplitude and present most of the time

Leg (score right and left)

- 0 = Absent
- 1 = Slight, and infrequently present
- 2 = Moderate in amplitude, but only intermittently present
- 3 = Moderate and present most of the time
- 4 = Marked in amplitude and present most of the time

___ /20 Total tremor score

Rigidity

Judged on passive movement of major joints with patient relaxed in sitting position, cogwheeling to be ignored.

Arm (score right and left separately)

- 0 = Absent
- 1 = Slight or detectable only when activated by mirror or other movements
- 2 = Mild to moderate
- 3 = Marked, but full range of motion easily achieved
- 4 = Severe, range of motion achieved with difficulty

Neck

- 0 = Absent
- 1 = Slight or detectable only when activated by minor or other movements
- 2 = Mild to moderate
- 3 = Marked, but full range of motion easily achieved
- 4 = Severe, range of motion achieved with difficulty

Leg (score right and left separately)

- 0 = Absent
- 1 = Slight or detectable only when activated by minor or other movements
- 2 = Mild to moderate
- 3 = Marked, but full range of motion easily achieved
- 4 = Severe, range of motion achieved with difficulty

___ /20 Total rigidity score

Bradykinesia

Five separate items, to be evaluated with the patient performing as naturally as possible without coaxing or special encouragement.

Bradykinesia

(combining both slowness and poverty of movement in general)

- 0 = None
- 1 = Minimal slowness giving movement a deliberate character, could be normal for some persons
- 2 = Mild degree of slowness and poverty of movement which is definitely abnormal
- 3 = Moderate slowness with occasional hesitation on initiating movement and arrests of ongoing movement
- 4 = Marked slowness and poverty of movement, with frequent freezing and long delays in initiating movement

Gait disturbance

- 0 = Freely ambulatory, good stepping, turns regularly
- 1 = Walks slowly, may shuffle with short steps but no festination or propulsion
- 2 = Walks with great difficulty, great festination, short steps, freezing and propulsion but requires little or no assistance
- 3 = Severe disturbance of gait requiring frequent assistance
- 4 = Cannot walk at all even with help

Posture

- 0 = Normal erect
- 1 = Not quite erect, slightly stooped posture, could be normal for older persons
- 2 = Moderate simian posture, definitely abnormal
- 3 = Marked simian posture with kyphosis
- 4 = Severe flexion with extreme abnormality of posture

Postural stability

If Romberg Test is normal, judge response to posterior displacement produced by push on sternum

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Retropulsion but recovers unaided
- 2 = Absence of postural response, would fall if not caught by examiner
- 3 = Very unstable, tends to fall spontaneously on the Romberg Test
- 4 = Unable to stand without assistance

Arising from chair (straightback wooden or metal chair)

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Slow
- 2 = Pushes self up from arms of seat
- 3 = Tends to fall back and may have to try several times but can get up without help
- 4 = Unable to arise without help

___ /20 Total bradykinesia score

Functional performance

Finger dexterity

Patient taps thumb with forefinger, then with each finger in rapid succession

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Slightly slow
- 2 = Slow
- 3 = Markedly slow
- 4 = Unable

Succession movements

Patient taps knees alternately with palm and dorsum of hands

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Slightly slow
- 2 = Slow
- 3 = Markedly slow
- 4 = Unable

Foot tapping

Putting heel at floor, patient taps floor with ball of foot as rapidly as possible

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Slightly slow
- 2 = Slow
- 3 = Markedly slow
- 4 = Unable

Facial expression

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Minimal hypomimia, could be normal 'poker face'
- 2 = Slight but definitely abnormal diminution of facial expression
- 3 = Moderate hypomimia
- 4 = Masked or fixed facies with severe or complete loss of facial expression

Seborrhea

- 0 = Normal
- 1 = Greasy forehead, no dermatitis
- 2 = Mild dermatitis, erythema, and scaling
- 3 = Moderate dermatitis
- 4 = Severe dermatitis

Sialorrhea

- 0 = None
- 1 = Slight but definite excess of saliva in pharynx, patient may be unaware thereof, no drooling
- 2 = Moderately excessive saliva with minimal drooling if any
- 3 = Marked excess of saliva with some drooling
- 4 = Marked drooling, requires special measures

Speech disorder

- 0 = None
- 1 = Slight loss of expression, diction, and/or volume
- 2 = Monotone, slurred but understandable
- 3 = Marked impairment, difficult to understand
- 4 = Unintelligible

___ /24 Functional performance score

References Yahr *et al.* (1969); Lang and Fahn (1989)

Comment

One of several widely used scales for Parkinson's disease, it focuses mainly on impairments (despite the title of the last section).