

## 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).