

# Cincinnati Stroke Scale

Patient information			
Name:			
Gender:			
Date of birth:			
Date of assessment:			
Purpose			
The Cincinnati Stroke Scale (CPSS) is a rapid assessment tool used by healthcare professionals and emergency responders to identify potential stroke symptoms in patients. It evaluates three critical neurological functions: facial droop, arm drift, and speech impairment. The presence of abnormalities in any of these areas suggests a high likelihood of stroke and warrants immediate medical intervention.			
Instructions			
<div>1. Perform the three assessment tests as outlined below.</div> <div>2. Follow the step-by-step procedure for each test.</div> <div>3. Mark observations as either "Normal" or "Abnormal."</div> <div>4. If any one of the three tests is abnormal, a stroke should be suspected, and urgent medical attention is required.</div>			
Cincinnati Stroke Scale assessment			
Test	Procedure	Response	Observation/remarks
Facial droop	Ask the patient to smile or show their teeth while observing their face.	<div><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Normal:</b> Both sides of the face move equally.</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Abnormal:</b> One side of the face droops or does not move as well as the other.</div>	
Arm drift	Ask the patient to close their eyes and extend both arms straight out with palms up for about 10 seconds.	<div><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Normal:</b> Both arms remain raised equally.</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Abnormal:</b> One arm drifts downward or is unable to be lifted.</div>	
Speech	Ask the patient to repeat a simple phrase, such as "The sky is blue."	<div><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Normal:</b> The patient can clearly repeat the phrase without slurring or errors.</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> <b>Abnormal:</b> Slurred speech, incorrect words, or inability to speak.</div>	

## Interpretation

- If any of the three tests show an abnormal response, suspect a stroke and seek emergency medical attention immediately.
- The Cincinnati Stroke Scale is a screening tool and does not confirm a stroke diagnosis. Further medical evaluation is necessary.
- The scale is closely related to the FAST acronym (Face, Arm, Speech, Time) to emphasize the urgency of stroke identification and treatment.

## Emergency response

- Call emergency medical services (EMS) immediately if a stroke is suspected.
- Note when symptoms first appeared or when the patient was last seen normal.
- Expedite transport to the nearest stroke center for evaluation and treatment.

## Additional notes

## Healthcare professional information

**Name:**

**License ID number:**

**Signature:**

**Date of assessment:**