

FAMILY NAME		MRN
GIVEN NAME		<input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE
D.O.B. ____/____/____	M.O.	
ADDRESS		
LOCATION / WARD		
COMPLETE ALL DETAILS OR AFFIX PATIENT LABEL HERE		

Facility:

ABBREVIATED WESTMEAD POST TRAUMATIC AMNESIA SCALE (A-WPTAS)
 INCORPORATING THE GLASGOW COMA SCALE (GCS) AND PICTURE RECOGNITION

A-WPTAS is to be used within 24hrs of injury for patients with a suspected closed head injury and a GCS 13-15. Patients must be opening their eyes spontaneously and obeying commands to be suitable for A-WPTAS.

REFER TO YOUR LOCAL CLINICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM (CERS) PROTOCOL FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE A CALL TO ESCALATE CARE FOR YOUR PATIENT

Yellow Zone

IF YOUR PATIENT HAS ANY YELLOW ZONE A-WPTAS CRITERIA * YOU MUST FOLLOW THE YELLOW ZONE RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE NSW STANDARD OBSERVATION CHARTS

*** A-WPTAS YELLOW ZONE Criteria**

- A drop of 1 point on the Glasgow Coma Scale or the patient is no longer obeying commands
- Any new onset of limb weakness (a decrease of 1 or more points on the MRC scale for muscle strength)
- Any persistent abnormal alertness, behaviour, cognition, vomiting or severe headache
- Persistent post traumatic amnesia (A-WPTAS score of <18/18 at 4 hours post injury)

Red Zone

IF YOUR PATIENT HAS ANY RED ZONE A-WPTAS CRITERIA # YOU MUST CALL FOR A RAPID RESPONSE (AS PER LOCAL CERS) AND FOLLOW THE RED ZONE RESPONSE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE NSW STANDARD OBSERVATION CHARTS

A-WPTAS RED ZONE Criteria

- A drop of 2 or more points on the Glasgow Coma Scale
- Glasgow Coma Scale ≤ 8
- Changes in pupil size in association with pupil dilation and / or loss of light reaction
- Seizure activity (including focal, generalised and absence seizures)

Target set of pictures



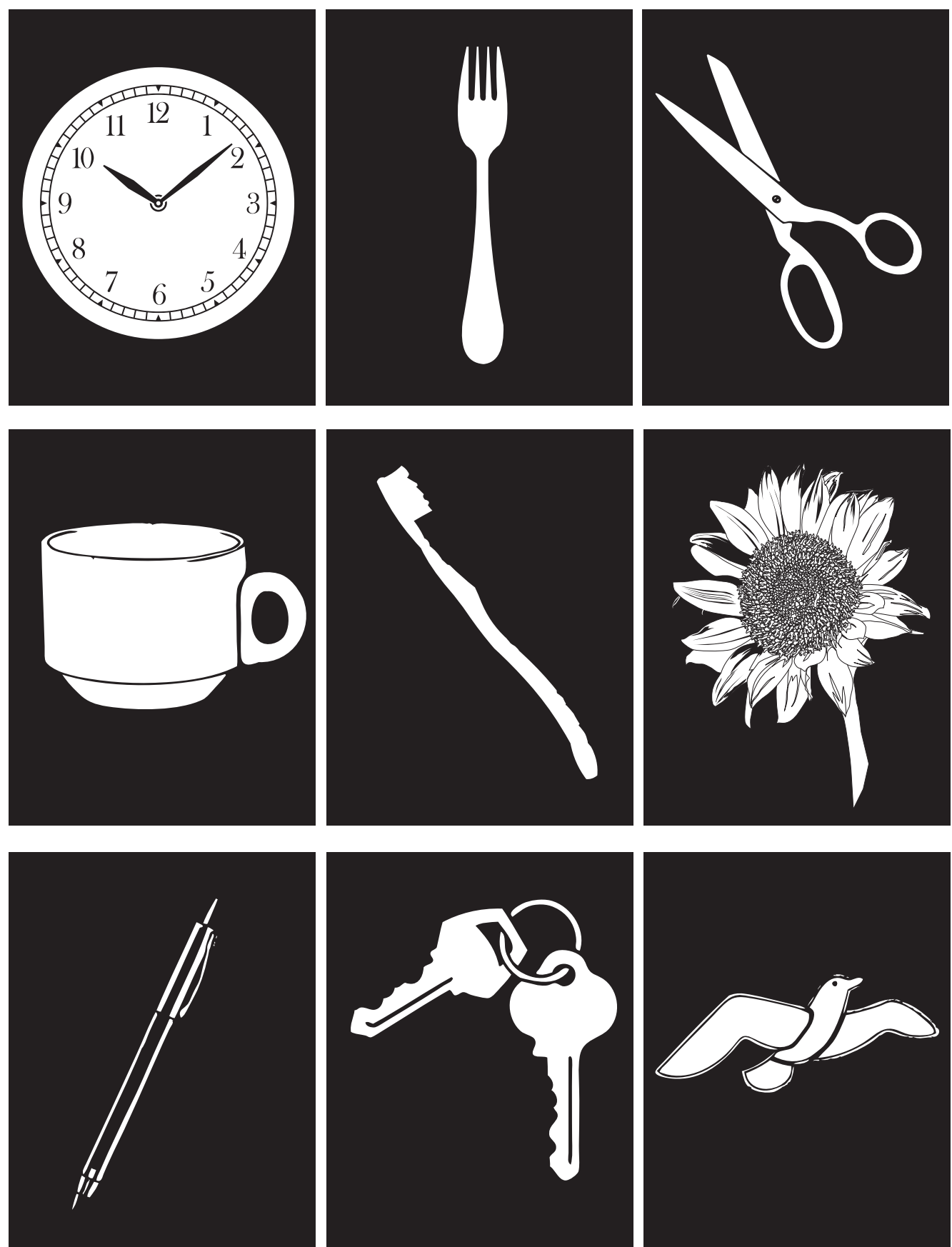
ABBREVIATED WESTMEAD POST TRAUMATIC AMNESIA SCALE (A-WPTAS) SMR060.950

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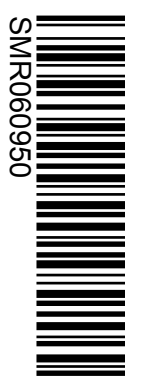
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Set of 9 pictures



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ABBREVIATED WESTMEAD POST TRAUMATIC AMNESIA SCALE (A-WPTAS)
INCORPORATING THE GLASGOW COMA SCALE (GCS) AND PICTURE RECOGNITION

		Date											Date	
		Time											Time	
GLASGOW COMA SCALE	EYES OPEN Must be (4) to use A-WPTAS	Spontaneously	4										4	
		To speech	3										3	
		To pain	2										2	
		None	1										1	
	BEST VERBAL RESPONSE Must be (3) or more to use A-WPTAS	Orientated (must achieve all)	5											5
		Person												
		Place												
		Reason for admission												
		Month												
		Year												
		Confused	4											4
		Inappropriate words	3											3
Incomprehensible sounds	2											2		
None	1											1		
BEST MOTOR RESPONSE Must be (6) to use A-WPTAS	Obeys commands	6											6	
	Localises to pain	5											5	
	Withdraws to pain	4											4	
	Flexion to pain	3											3	
	Extension to pain	2											2	
	None	1											1	
TOTAL GCS SCORE (A)														
Picture Recognition	Picture 1 - Cup												Cup	
	Picture 2 - Keys	Show 3 pics											Keys	
	Picture 3 - Bird												Bird	
TOTAL PICTURE RECOGNITION SCORE (B)														
TOTAL A-WPTAS SCORE (A+B)														
LIMB STRENGTH	ARMS	Normal power	5										5	
		Active movement against resistance	4										4	
		Active movement against gravity	3										3	
		Active movement gravity eliminated	2										2	
		Flicker of movement	1										1	
		No movement	0										0	
	LEGS	Normal power	5											5
		Active movement against resistance	4											4
		Active movement against gravity	3											3
		Active movement gravity eliminated	2											2
		Flicker of movement	1											1
		No movement	0											0
EYE SIGNS	EYES	+ Reacts	Right	Size										
			Left	Reaction										
	- No	Right	Size											
		Left	Reaction											
		Initials												
PUPIL SIZE (mm)														

Guide to using the Abbreviated Westmead Post Traumatic Amnesia Scale (A-WPTAS)

For in-depth information, please see the A-WPTAS Education Package.
For in-depth information on conducting neurological observations, please see the Adult Neurological Observation Chart and associated education package.

A-WPTAS is to be used within 24hrs of injury for patients with a suspected closed head injury and a GCS 13-15.
Patients must be opening their eyes spontaneously and obeying commands to be suitable for A-WPTAS.

Glasgow Coma Scale

Eyes open: Speak in a clear, strong voice. The patient must open their eyes spontaneously (4) to be suitable for use of the A-WPTAS.

Verbal response (orientation questions): A thorough orientation assessment is the core of the A-WPTAS. Must answer all questions correctly to be classified as orientated (5). Obtain the patient's attention and ask the following questions:

Question 1: What is your name?

The patient must provide their full name.

Question 2: What is the name of this place?

The patient has to be able to give the name of the hospital. No points scored for just "hospital."

If the patient cannot name the hospital, give them a choice of 3 local hospital options such as Westmead, Liverpool and Nepean Hospital. One of the options provided needs to be the correct hospital name.

Question 3: Why are you here?

The patient must know why they were admitted to hospital i.e. injured in a car accident. If they do not know, give them options including the correct reason.

Question 4: What month are we in?

The patient must name the month. If they respond "the 6th month," ask the patient "what is the 6th month?" If they do not know the month, give them 3 consecutive options including the correct month.

Question 5: What year are we in?

It is considered correct for patients to answer in the short form "08" instead of "2008". It is also acceptable to offer a prompt i.e. "the year is 2000 and what?"

- Inform the patient of any incorrect answers and advise what the correct answers are.

Best Motor Response: Give simple command e.g. "wiggle your fingers." The patient must obey commands (6) to be suitable for use of the A-WPTAS.

Picture recognition

First assessment: Show the patient the target set of 3 pictures (page 1) for about 10 seconds and ensure that they can repeat the names of each picture (cup, keys, bird). Tell the patient to remember the pictures for re-testing in one hour.

Subsequent assessments: Document the GCS then ask the patient - "What were the three pictures that I showed you earlier?"

Picture recognition scoring:

- Assign a score of 1 for each picture that is recalled correctly. If the total A-WPTAS score is 18/18, cease testing.
- If the patient is unable to recall all 3 pictures correctly, show them the set of 9 pictures (page 4) and ask them if they can recognise the 3 target pictures. Assign a score of 1 for each target picture that is recognised correctly. If the total A-WPTAS score is 18/18, cease testing.
- If the patient is not able to correctly recognise all 3 target pictures, show them the target pictures (page 1) again and ensure that they can repeat the name of each picture. Re-test the patient in 1 hour.

Total A-WPTAS scoring

Add the total GCS score (A) with the total picture recognition score (B) to give the total A-WPTAS score out of 18.

Continue the test hourly until the patient scores 18/18 (max 4hrs, clinical judgement required). See admission and discharge criteria below.

Once the total A-WPTAS score is 18/18, the patient is considered to be out of PTA and the A-WPTAS testing is ceased.

Discharge and admission criteria

Discharge

- Patients with an A-WPTAS score of 18/18 can be considered for discharge. Both the GCS and A-WPTAS should be used in conjunction with clinical judgement.
- Once considered for discharge, refer the patient to their GP if the patient scored <18/18 at any time.
- Provide thorough discharge advice and ensure the patient and/or carer understands the information provided on the Mild Head Injury Patient Advice Sheet.

Have you given the patient and/or carer:

- VERBAL DISCHARGE ADVICE** Yes No
MILD HEAD INJURY DISCHARGE LETTER Yes No
MILD HEAD INJURY PATIENT ADVICE SHEET Yes No

Admission

- Patients with a persistent A-WPTAS score of <18/18 at 4hrs post time of injury should be considered for admission. Clinical judgement and consideration of pre-existing conditions should be used where the picture recall component of A-WPTAS is abnormal but the GCS is normal (15/15).
- If admitted, consider repeating the A-WPTAS assessment at 24hrs post time of injury or commencing the use of a standard PTA assessment tool. If the patient continues to have an A-WPTAS score of <18/18, consult with the local brain injury rehabilitation service.



SMR060950

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