

Stroke Scales

Stroke scales are standardized tools used to assess various aspects of stroke, including severity, functional status, prognosis, and treatment eligibility.

1. NIH Stroke Scale (NIHSS)

- Purpose: Quantifies neurological deficit in acute stroke.
- Range: 0-42
- Interpretation:
 - 0 = No stroke symptoms
 - 1-4 = Minor stroke
 - 5-15 = Moderate stroke
 - 16-20 = Moderate to severe stroke
 - 21-42 = Severe stroke
- Use: Inclusion/exclusion in thrombolysis and thrombectomy trials.

2. Modified Rankin Scale (mRS)

- Purpose: Measures degree of disability or dependence after stroke.
- Range: 0-6
- Interpretation:
 - 0 = No symptoms
 - 1 = No significant disability despite symptoms
 - 2 = Slight disability
 - 3 = Moderate disability
 - 4 = Moderately severe disability
 - 5 = Severe disability
 - 6 = Death
- Use: Common endpoint in stroke trials.

3. Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)

- Purpose: Assesses level of consciousness.
- Range: 3-15
- Components: Eye (4), Verbal (5), Motor (6)
- Use: Useful in hemorrhagic stroke or coma.

4. ASPECTS (Alberta Stroke Program Early CT Score)

- Purpose: Quantifies early ischemic changes on non-contrast head CT.
- Range: 0-10
- Lower score = More extensive ischemia
- Use: Selection for thrombectomy (particularly in anterior circulation).

5. TICI (Thrombolysis in Cerebral Infarction)

- Purpose: Grades reperfusion after thrombectomy.
- Range:
 - 0 = No perfusion
 - 1 = Minimal
 - 2a = Partial (<50%)
 - 2b = Substantial (>50%)
 - 2c = Near complete
 - 3 = Complete
- Use: Angiographic outcome measurement.

6. Barthel Index

- Purpose: Measures functional independence in activities of daily living (ADLs).
- Range: 0-100
- Use: Rehab planning and long-term prognosis.

7. ABCD2 Score

- Purpose: Predicts risk of stroke after TIA.
- Factors: Age, BP, Clinical features, Duration, Diabetes
- Range: 0-7
- Risk stratification:
 - 0-3 = Low
 - 4-5 = Moderate
 - 6-7 = High

8. SPAN-100 Index

- Purpose: Estimates risk/benefit from thrombolysis in elderly.
- Calculation: Age + NIHSS
- SPAN-100 positive = total ≥ 100 → high risk of sICH (symptomatic ICH)

9. ICH Score

- Purpose: Predicts 30-day mortality in intracerebral hemorrhage.
- Factors: GCS, ICH volume, age, location, IVH
- Range: 0-6

10. TOAST Classification

- Purpose: Etiological classification of ischemic stroke.
- Categories:
 - Large-artery atherosclerosis
 - Cardioembolism

- Small vessel occlusion (lacune)
- Other determined etiology
- Undetermined etiology

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