

# GLASGOW COMA SCALE (2020)

## UPDATED TERMINOLOGY



**Check**  
For factors interfering with communication, ability to respond and other injuries



**Observe**  
Eye opening, content of speech and movements of right and left



**Stimulate**  
Sound: spoken or shouted request  
Physical: Pressure on fingertip, trapezius, or supraorbital notch



**Rate**  
Assign according to highest response observed

MOTOR RESPONSE	GCS TERMS OF 1974	GCS TERMS OF 2020	SCORE
	Obeys commands	Obeys commands	6
	Localizing	Localizing	5
	Withdraws	Normal flexion	4
	Flexion	Abnormal flexion	3
	Extension	Extension	2
	None	None	1
		Non-testable (NT)	1 with reason

VERBAL RESPONSE	GCS TERMS OF 1974	GCS TERMS OF 2020	SCORE
	Orientation	Oriented	5
	Confused	Confused	4
	Inappropriate	Words	3
	Incomprehensible	Sounds	2
	None	None	1
	Non-testable (NT)	1 with reason	

EYE OPENING	GCS TERMS OF 1974	GCS TERMS OF 2020	SCORE
	Spontaneous	Spontaneous	4
	To speech	To sound	3
	To pain	To pressure	2
	None	None	1
	Non-testable (NT)	1 with reason	

### Sites For Physical Stimulation

Finger tip pressure

Trapezius Pinch

Supraorbital notch



### Features of Flexion Responses

Modified with permission from Van Der Naalt 2004  
Ned Tijdschr Geneeskd

#### Abnormal Flexion

Slow Stereotyped  
Arm across chest  
Forearm rotates  
Thumb clenched  
Leg extends



#### Normal flexion

Rapid  
Variable  
Arm away from body