

## RANCHO LOS AMIGOS LEVELS OF COGNITIVE FUNCTIONING SCALE

### About the Scale

The Rancho Los Amigos Levels of Cognitive Functioning Scale is useful when evaluating a patient in the initial period following a brain injury. Levels are based on observations of the patient's responses to their surroundings. Scale measurements provide insight into progress during the recovery and rehabilitation process.

### Level I - No Response

Patient does not respond to external stimuli; appears asleep.

### Level II - Generalized Response

Patient reacts to external stimuli in nonspecific and inconsistent manner with limited responses.

### Level III - Localized Response

Patient responds specifically and inconsistently with delays to stimuli, but may follow simple commands for motor action.

### Level IV - Confused, Agitated Response

Patient exhibits incoherent or inappropriate behaviors, has no short-term recall, and attention is short and non-selective.

### Level V - Confused, Inappropriate, Non-agitated Response

Patient gives random, fragmented responses to complex or unstructured stimuli. Simple commands are followed consistently. Memory and selective attention are impaired, and new information is not retained.

### Level VI - Confused, Appropriate Response

Patient gives context-appropriate, goal-directed responses; is dependent upon external input for direction. There is carry-over for relearned tasks, but not new tasks, and recent memory problems persist.

### Level VII - Automatic, Appropriate Response

Patient behaves appropriately in familiar settings, performs daily routines automatically, and shows carry-over for new learning at lower-than-normal rates. Patient initiates social interactions, but judgment remains impaired.

### Level VIII - Purposeful, Appropriate Response

Patient is oriented and responds to the environment, but abstract reasoning abilities are decreased compared to levels before the injury.

Over →

## HOW TO ASSESS THE GLASGOW COMA SCALE (GCS)

Glasgow Coma Scale		
BEHAVIOR	RESPONSE	SCORE
Eye-opening response	Spontaneously	4
	To speech	3
	To pain	2
	No response	1
Best verbal response	Oriented to time, place, and person	5
	Confused	4
	Inappropriate words	3
	Incomprehensible sounds	2
	No response	1
Best motor response	Obeys commands	6
	Moves to localized pain	5
	Flexion withdrawal from pain	4
	Abnormal flexion (decorticate)	3
	Abnormal extension (decerebrate)	2
	No response	1
<i>Total Score</i>	<i>Best Response</i>	15
	<i>Comatose Client</i>	8 or less
	<i>Totally Unresponsive</i>	3