

Glasgow Coma Scale

The Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) is a neurological scale that aims to give a reliable, objective way of recording the conscious state of a person. The scale assesses three components: eye, verbal and motor responses. The three values separately as well as their sum are considered. The lowest possible GCS (the sum) is 3 (deep coma), while the highest is 15 (fully awake person).

Tracheal intubation often makes it impossible to test the verbal and eye responses. In these circumstances, the verbal score may be calculated based on the measurable eye and motor responses.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
EYES	Does not open eyes	Opens eyes in response to pain	Opens eyes in response to voice	Opens eyes spontaneously		
VERBAL RESPONSE	Makes no sounds	Makes inappropriate sounds (moaning)	Utters inappropriate random words	Confused & disoriented	Oriented & converses normally	
MOTOR RESPONSE	Makes no spontaneous movement	Decerebrate (extension) response to pain	Decorticate (flexion) response to pain	Flexion withdrawal to pain	Localizes to pain	Obeys commands

Algorithm for calculating predicted verbal score for intubated subjects					
Motor Score	Eye Opening Score				Predicted Verbal Score
	1	2	3	4	
1	1	1	1	2	
2	1	2	2	2	
3	2	2	3	3	
4	2	3	3	4	
5	3	3	4	4	
6	3	4	4	5	