

FAST-ED TIPS and TRICKS

		0	1	2	Coma = patient is not alert or interactive despite verbal or noxious stimuli	Difficult patient to examine or confused	Score
F	Facial palsy Ask the patient to smile	Normal or mild facial asymmetry	Obvious droop of one side of the mouth	N/A	Default score: 1	If confused and nonverbal, use noxious stimulation to elicit grimace and score if asymmetric	
A	Arm weakness Extend the weak arm <i>with palm facing down</i> to 90° (if sitting) or 45° (if supine) and ask them to hold it there for 10 seconds	No drift down x 10 seconds	Drifts, but not all the way down to the bed	Drifts all the way down to the bed or no movement at all	Default score: 2	If unable to follow directions, use observation of spontaneous arm movements and hold up arms and note any effort against gravity or asymmetry of drop to score	
S	Speech changes Note spontaneous speech; ask the patient to name 3 common items; ask the patient to show you 2 fingers without demonstrating this visually to the patient	Normal speech	Impaired but comprehensible speech, and/or unable to name any of the items, and/or unable to follow the command	Incomprehensible speech and/or complete lack of understanding or mute	2	Choose score based on ability for the examiner to understand any attempts at communication and whether or not patient is following any commands	
T	Time Time LKW is documented for decision making purposes and is not scored	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Time LKW: _____
E	Eye deviation Observe the patient's eye position; ask the patient to track your hand all the way to the left and then all the way to the right	The patient's eyes are not deviated to one side and they move all the way to the left and all the way to the right	Eyes tend to only move to one side (<i>make note of the side</i>)	Eyes both forced over to one side (<i>make note of the side</i>)	Hold eyes open and turn head side-to-side (Doll' maneuver) and score based on positioning and movement of the eyes	Make eye contact and move your face from side to side and note if the patient tracks you	
D	Denial/Neglect With eyes closed, touch the patient on both arms at the same time and ask if they feel both sides; Show the patient the hand <i>on the side of their weakness</i> and ask them "Whose hand is this?"	Able to sense touch on both sides at the same time and recognizes the weak hand as their own	Unable to feel one side of the touch but can recognize their hand as their own	Unable to feel one side of touch and does not recognize their hand as their own	0	Score only if present – note if pt only tends to stimuli on one side (typically the left hemisphere) or only orients eyes to one hemifield. If unable to assess	
	TOTAL SCORE						