

RANCHO LOS AMIGOS PEDIATRIC LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS SCALE

The Rancho Los Amigos Pediatric Level of Consciousness Scale (Rancho-Pediatric) is specifically designed for use with children and adolescents and is used by the TBI Waiver Program in conjunction with the Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) as part of the assessment of medical eligibility.

The Rancho-Pediatric takes into consideration how a child's responses may differ depending on developmental level. The Rancho-Pediatric can be used in any setting, whether the child is at a hospital, a rehabilitation center, home, or school. Knowing the child's Level of Consciousness (LOC) is the key to understanding the child's cognitive and behavioral skills and may help to determine what further assessment, intervention, and education plans may be needed.

Most children appear alert and physically able but may have a reduced LOC and not able to consistently remember what happened earlier that day, what time of day it is, or what is planned for tomorrow. They tend to fatigue easily, become overstimulated, and have a greater need for structure and repetition through their day.

The Rancho-Pediatric is not a standardized assessment but is a rating scale that provides a framework for describing the cognitive recover process.

LOC is determined by informally assessing the child's abilities during daily functional activities to provide important information for planning, assessment, treatment, and programing.

Level V: No response to stimuli

Complete absence of observable change in behavior to visual, auditory, or painful stimuli

Level IV: Gives generalized response to sensory stimuli

Gives generalized startle to loud sound

Responds to repeated auditory stimulation with increased or decreased activity

Gives generalized reflex response to painful stimuli

Level III: Gives localized response to sensory stimuli

Blinks when strong light crosses field of vision

Follows moving object passed within visual field

Turns toward or away from loud sound

Gives localized response to painful stimuli

Level II: Demonstrates awareness environment

Follows simple commands

Refuses to follow simple commands by shaking head or saying "no"

Imitates examiner's gestures or facial expressions

Responds to name

Recognizes mother or other family members

Enjoys imitative vocal play

Level I: Oriented to self and surroundings

Provides accurate information about self

Is aware of being away from home

Knows where toys, clothes and other objects are kept

Actively participates in treatment program

Recognizes own room, knows way to bathroom, nursing station, etc.

Is potty-trained

Shows active interest in toys; will examine or manipulate before mouthing or discarding

Watches other children at play; may move toward them purposefully to watch or snatch a toy

Initiates social contact with adult; enjoys socializing