

DYSARTHRIA/APRAXIA SCREENING

Oral Mechanism Exam INTELLIGIBILITY

Observation: conversational speech

- intelligible
- intelligible with some difficulty
- unintelligible

Characteristics:

Spontaneous Speech: *"Tell me about this picture."*
(Disability/Perceptual)

- intelligible
- intelligible with some difficulty
- unintelligible

RESPIRATION

Observation:

- clavicle breathing
- short breath phrases
- irregular posture
- rapid
- shallow
- labored

Bubble Test: Materials: glass of water with straw submerged at 5 cm and paper clipped to side
(Impairment/Perceptual)

- sustain for 5 seconds
- control (can the client keep the water in the glass?)

Ability to sustain /s/:
(Impairment/Perceptual)

"Take a deep breath then exhale, making the /s/ sound for as long as you can."

_____ seconds

- 20 - 30 seconds = normal
- 15 - 19 seconds = good
- 10 - 14 seconds = fair
- 1 - 9 seconds = poor
- 0 seconds = none

PHONATION

Observation: vocal quality

- harsh
- strain-strangled
- breathy
- other_____

Ability to sustain /a/:

(Impairment/Perceptual)

"Take a deep breath, then make the /a/ sound for as long as you can."
_____seconds

- 15 - 25 seconds = normal
- 11 - 14 seconds = good
- 6 - 10 seconds = fair
- 1 - 5 seconds = poor
- 0 seconds = none

Ability to increase volume:

(Impairment/Perceptual)

"Take a deep breath, then make the /a/ sound again, but start at a whisper then get louder."

- yes
- no

Ability to glide up and down a scale:

(Impairment/Perceptual)

"Begin at your conversational level of speech, say /a/ and sing up a scale, then sing down the scale." (provide a model)

- yes
- no

PROSODY

Observation: Ability to vary:

- stress
- rate
- intonation

Ability to imitate different stress patterns:

(Impairment/Perceptual)

"Say these sentences exactly the way I say them using the same stress."

- I am hungry.
- I AM hungry.
- I am HUNGRY.

RESONATION

Observation: Nasality:

- hypernasality (d/n, b/m)
- hyponasality (n/d, m/d)

Velar Movement

(Disability/Perceptual)

"Say /a/, /a/, /a/."

- yes
- no

Nasal Emission: mirror

(Impairment/Perceptual)

"I am going to hold this mirror under your nose, say 'may may may', now say, 'pay, pay, pay'."

- yes
- no (pay)

ARTICULATORY

Observation:

- groping behaviors _____

Rate of Movement:

(Disability/Perceptual)

"Say 'buttercup' as fast as you can until I tell you to stop." model (5 seconds)

- 12 - 15 repetitions = normal
- 8 - 11 repetitions = good
- 4 - 7 repetitions = fair
- 1 - 3 repetitions = poor
- 0 repetitions = none

Word Length:

(Impairment/Perceptual)

"Repeat each word after me."

- *thick*
- *thicken*
- *thickening*
- *cat*
- *catnip*
- *catapult*
- *catastrophe*

Repetition:

(Impairment/Perceptual)

"Repeat each word 3 times." (Judge whether productions get better after repetitions)

- ashtray
- banana
- cigarette
- potatoes
- coffeepot
- newspaper
- animal
- volcano
- elephant
- refrigerator

Norms adapted from the Dysarthria Profile (Robertson, 1987)