

Vestibular-Ocular Motor Screening (VOMS) Assessment for Concussion

Patient's full name:						
Date assessed:						
Scoring						
	Tested or not tested	Headache (0-10)	Dizziness (0-10)	Nausea (0-10)	Fogginess (0-10)	Comments
Baseline symptoms	Mandatory					
Smooth pursuits						
Saccades-horizontal						
Saccades-vertical						
Convergence (near point)						(Near point in cm): Measure 1: _____ Measure 2: _____ Measure 3: _____
VOR - horizontal						
VOR - vertical						
Visual motion sensitivity test						
Examiner's full name:						
Signature:						

Instructions

Interpretation: This test is designed for use with subjects ages 9-40. When used with patients outside this age range, interpretation may vary. Abnormal findings or provocation of symptoms with any test may indicate dysfunction – and should trigger a referral to the appropriate healthcare professional for more detailed assessment and management.

Equipment: Tape measure (cm); Metronome; Target w/ 14 point font print.

Baseline symptoms: Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea & Fogginess on 0-10 scale prior to beginning screening

Smooth pursuits: Test the ability to follow a slowly moving target. The patient and the examiner are seated. The examiner holds a fingertip at a distance of 3 ft. from the patient. The patient is instructed to maintain focus on the target as the examiner moves the target smoothly in the horizontal direction 1.5 ft. to the right and 1.5 ft. to the left of midline. One repetition is complete when the target moves back and forth to the starting position, and 2 repetitions are performed. The target should be moved at a rate requiring approximately 2 seconds to go fully from left to right and 2 seconds to go fully from right to left. The test is repeated with the examiner moving the target smoothly and slowly in the vertical direction 1.5 ft. above and 1.5 ft. below midline for 2 complete repetitions up and down. Again, the target should be moved at a rate requiring approximately 2 seconds to move the eyes fully upward and 2 seconds to move fully downward. Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea & Fogginess ratings after the test. (Figure 1)

Saccades: Test the ability of the eyes to move quickly between targets. The patient and the examiner are seated.

- **Horizontal Saccades:** The examiner holds two single points (fingertips) horizontally at a distance of 3 ft. from the patient, and 1.5 ft. to the right and 1.5 ft. to the left of midline so that the patient must gaze 30 degrees to left and 30 degrees to the right. Instruct the patient to move their eyes as quickly as possible from point to point. One repetition is complete when the eyes move back and forth to the starting position, and 10 repetitions are performed. Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea & Fogginess ratings after the test.
- **Vertical Saccades:** Repeat the test with 2 points held vertically at a distance of 3 ft. from the patient, and 1.5 feet above and 1.5 feet below midline so that the patient must gaze 30 degrees upward and 30 degrees downward. Instruct the patient to move their eyes as quickly as possible from point to point. One repetition is complete when the eyes move up and down to the starting position, and 10 repetitions are performed. Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea & Fogginess ratings after the test.

Convergence: Measure the ability to view a near target without double vision. The patient is seated and wearing corrective lenses (if needed). The examiner is seated front of the patient and observes their eye movement during this test. The patient focuses on a small target (approximately 14 point font size) at arm's length and slowly brings it toward the tip of their nose. The patient is instructed to stop moving the target when they see two distinct images or when the examiner observes an outward deviation of one eye. Blurring of the image is ignored. The distance in cm. between target and the tip of nose is measured and recorded. This is repeated a total of 3 times with measures recorded each time. Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea & Fogginess ratings after the test. Abnormal: Near Point of convergence ≥ 6 cm from the tip of the nose.

Vestibular-Ocular Reflex (VOR) Test: Assess the ability to stabilize vision as the head moves. The patient and the examiner are seated. The examiner holds a target of approximately 14 point font size in front of the patient in midline at a distance of 3 ft.

- **Horizontal VOR Test:** The patient is asked to rotate their head horizontally while maintaining focus on the target. The head is moved at an amplitude of 20 degrees to each side and a metronome is used to ensure the speed of rotation is maintained at 180 beats/minute (one beat in each direction). One repetition is complete when the head moves back and forth to the starting position, and 10 repetitions are performed. Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea and Fogginess ratings 10 sec after the test is completed.

- **Vertical VOR Test:** The test is repeated with the patient moving their head vertically. The head is moved in an amplitude of 20 degrees up and 20 degrees down and a metronome is used to ensure the speed of movement is maintained at 180 beats/minute (one beat in each direction). One repetition is complete when the head moves up and down to the starting position, and 10 repetitions are performed. Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea and Fogginess ratings after the test.

Visual Motion Sensitivity (VMS) Test: Test visual motion sensitivity and the ability to inhibit vestibular-induced eye movements using vision. The patient stands with feet shoulder width apart, facing a busy area of the clinic. The examiner stands next to and slightly behind the patient, so that the patient is guarded but the movement can be performed freely. The patient holds arm outstretched and focuses on their thumb. Maintaining focus on their thumb, the patient rotates, together as a unit, their head, eyes and trunk at an amplitude of 80 degrees to the right and 80 degrees to the left. A metronome is used to ensure the speed of rotation is maintained at 50 beats/min (one beat in each direction). One repetition is complete when the trunk rotates back and forth to the starting position, and 5 repetitions are performed. Record: Headache, Dizziness, Nausea & Fogginess ratings after the test.

Mucha, A., Collins, M. W., Elbin, R. J., Furman, J. M., Troutman-Enseki, C., DeWolf, R. M., Marchetti, G., & Kontos, A. P. (2014). A brief Vestibular/Ocular Motor Screening (VOMS) Assessment to evaluate concussions: Preliminary findings. *The American Journal of Sports Medicine*, 42(10), 2479–2486. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0363546514543775>