

University of Michigan Neurocritical Care Coma Exam Checklist

☐ Peer Teaching

☐ Supervised Clinical Experience

Date: _____

Focused History (from witnesses, family, etc.)	Feedback
<input type="checkbox"/> Circumstances surrounding the event (including onset/time course, premonitory signs/symptoms)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical, psychiatric, and surgical history	
<input type="checkbox"/> Medications and/or over-the-counter substances	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol and illicit drug use	
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental exposures	
<input type="checkbox"/> Recent injury	
Neurologic Exam	Feedback
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental status <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Response to voice (loud) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to noxious stimuli (e.g. supraorbital pressure, TMJ pressure; trapezius pinch, sternal rub) <input type="checkbox"/> Eye tracking or fixation <input type="checkbox"/> Forced eyelid opening <input type="checkbox"/> Blink to threat 	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brainstem function <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pupillary size, light reflex <input type="checkbox"/> Corneal reflex <input type="checkbox"/> Oculocephalic reflex <input type="checkbox"/> Cough and gag reflex 	
<input type="checkbox"/> Breathing pattern (Cheyne-Stokes, hyperventilation, apneustic, ataxic, apneic?)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Motor and sensory function <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Muscle tone <input type="checkbox"/> Spontaneous posturing <input type="checkbox"/> Response to voice (reflexive movements?) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to noxious stimuli (reflexive movements?) 	

References

1. Stern-Nezer S, Peariso K, Kandiah PA. Approach to the patient with coma. ENLS version 5.0.
<https://www.neurocriticalcare.org/Portals/0/ENLS%205.0/ENLS%205.0%20Protocol%20-%20Coma.pdf>
2. Posner, J. B., Saper, C. B., Schiff, N. D., & Claassen, J. (2019). Examination of the Comatose Patient. In *Plum and Posner's Diagnosis and Treatment of Stupor and Coma* (pp. 43–92). Oxford University Press.