

# Clinical Hepatic Encephalopathy Staging Scale (CHESS)

In order to assess clinical severity of hepatic encephalopathy, Ortiz et al. (Aliment Pharmacol Ther. 2007) developed a scale initially composed of 48 items easy to categorize. Their analysis leads to the establishment of a Clinical Hepatic Encephalopathy Staging Scale of nine items (CHESS), ranged from normality (Hepatic Encephalopathy Clinical Staging Scale = 0) to deep coma (Clinical Hepatic Encephalopathy Staging Scale = 9).

**The total score is the sum of the answers to the 9 items. Minimal score= 0. Maximal score= 9. For indication, CHESS score of 3 correlates with a grade 2 in West Haven criteria.**

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

		SCORE	
		0	1
1	Does the patient know which month he/she is in (i.e.: January, February)?	Yes	
		No or he/she does not talk	
2	Does the patient know which day of the week he/she is in (i.e.: Thursday, Friday..)?	Yes	
		No or he/she does not talk	
3	Can he/she count backwards from 10 to 1 without making mistakes or stopping? (the patient is asked between item 2 and 3 to count forward from 1 to 10 and is helped if necessary)	Yes	
		No or he/she does not talk	
4	If asked to do so, does he/she raise his/her arms?	Yes	
		No	
5	Does he/she understand what you are saying to him/her? (based on the answers to questions 1 to 4)	Yes	
		No or he/she does not talk	
6	Is the patient awake and alert?	Yes	
		No, he/she is sleepy or fast asleep	
7	Is the patient fast asleep, and is it difficult to wake him/her up?	Yes	
		No	
8	Can he/she talk?	Yes	
		He/she does not talk	
9	Can he/she talk correctly? In other words, can you understand everything he/she says, and he/she doesn't stammer?	Yes	
		No, he/she does not talk or does not talk correctly	
<b>TOTAL</b>			



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For more information on hepatic encephalopathy and liver disease, or to download a free .pdf copy of this tool, visit the Canadian Liver Foundation at [www.liver.ca](http://www.liver.ca).

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