

**EMS Assessment Toolkit** – a comprehensive, ready-to-use master list with detailed explanations and practical applications:

## 1. Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)

### **\*\*Scoring System:\*\***

Category	Response	Score	Clinical Significance
<b>**Eye Opening**</b>	Spontaneous	4	Normal arousal
	To voice	3	Mild impairment
	To pain	2	Serious brain dysfunction
	None	1	Coma
<b>**Verbal Response**</b>	Oriented	5	Fully conscious
	Confused	4	Disoriented
	Inappropriate words	3	Severe confusion
	Incomprehensible	2	Vegetative sounds
	None	1	Coma
<b>**Motor Response**</b>	Obeys commands	6	Normal
	Localizes pain	5	Purposeful movement
	Withdraws	4	Basic response
	Abnormal flexion	3	Decorticate posturing
	Extension	2	Decerebrate posturing
	None	1	Coma

### **\*\*Key Thresholds:\*\***

- **\*\*15:\*\*** Normal
- **\*\*13-14:\*\*** Mild alteration
- **\*\*9-12:\*\*** Moderate impairment
- **\*\*≤8:\*\*** Severe - prepare for intubation

### **\*\*Special Cases:\*\***

- Intubated patients: Score as "Vt" (e.g., "E3VtM5")
- Pediatric modifications: Smiling = 5, consolable cry = 4

## 2. Complete Assessment Tools Master List

### **\*\*Primary Survey Tools\*\***

Tool	Components	When to Use
<b>**ABCDE**</b>	Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, Exposure	Every patient
<b>**AVPU**</b>	Alert, Verbal, Pain, Unresponsive	Rapid triage
<b>**GCS**</b>	Eyes (1-4), Verbal (1-5), Motor (1-6)	Trauma/altered mental status

## **\*\*Medical Assessment Tools\*\***

| Tool | Mnemonic | Best For |

|-----|-----|-----|

| **\*\*OPQRST\*\*** | Onset, Provocation, Quality, Radiation, Severity, Time | Pain evaluation |

| **\*\*SAMPLE\*\*** | Symptoms, Allergies, Medications, PMH, Last intake, Events | Medical history |

| **\*\*FAST\*\*** | Face, Arm, Speech, Time | Stroke screening |

| **\*\*RACE Scale\*\*** | Facial palsy, Arm/leg weakness, Head/gaze, Aphasia | Large vessel occlusion |

## **\*\*Trauma Assessment Tools\*\***

| Tool | Components | Application |

|-----|-----|-----|

| **\*\*DCAP-BTLS\*\*** | Deformities, Contusions, Abrasions, Punctures, Burns, Tenderness, Lacerations, Swelling | Trauma survey |

| **\*\*BLEED\*\*** | Bleeding, Location, Exigency, Extremity, Delay | Hemorrhage control |

| **\*\*Cincinnati Stroke Scale\*\*** | Facial droop, Arm drift, Speech | Field stroke ID |

## **\*\*Pediatric Tools\*\***

| Tool | Focus Areas | Age Group |

|-----|-----|-----|

| **\*\*PAT\*\*** | Appearance, Work of breathing, Circulation | <8 years |

| **\*\*CIAMPEDS\*\*** | Chief complaint, Immunizations, Allergies, Meds, PMH, Events, Diet, Sleep | All children |

| **\*\*APGAR\*\*** | Appearance, Pulse, Grimace, Activity, Respiration | Newborns |

## **\*\*Special Situation Tools\*\***

| Tool | Components | Use Case |

|-----|-----|-----|

| **\*\*SAFE-T\*\*** | Suicidal ideation, Abuse, Fear, Environment, Trauma | Psych emergencies |

| **\*\*AMPLE-OB\*\*** | Allergies, Meds, Prenatal care, Labor, Events, STI risk | Obstetrics |

| **\*\*PERRL\*\*** | Pupils Equal, Round, Reactive to Light | Neuro exams |

## **\*\*3. Clinical Application Framework\*\***

### **\*\*Step-by-Step Patient Assessment:\*\***

1. **\*\*Primary Survey:\*\*** ABCD + AVPU/GCS

2. **\*\*Focused Exam:\*\***

- Trauma: DCAP-BTLS → BLEED if bleeding
- Medical: SAMPLE → OPQRST → FAST/RACE
- Pediatric: PAT → CIAMPEDS

3. **\*\*Interventions:\*\*** Based on findings

4. **\*\*Reassessment:\*\*** Serial GCS/vitals

**\*\*Critical Decision Points:\*\***

- GCS  $\leq 8 \rightarrow$  Secure airway
- RACE  $\geq 5 \rightarrow$  Thrombectomy center
- PAT abnormal  $\rightarrow$  Immediate life support

**### \*\*4. Documentation Templates\*\***

**\*\*Narrative Note Example:\*\***

"Pt found unresponsive (AVPU=P). GCS E2V2M4=8. DCAP-BTLS: Right parietal hematoma. SAMPLE reveals HTN meds. Transported Code 3, GCS improved to 10 en route."

**\*\*PCR Checkboxes:\*\***

- ☐ ABCD completed
- ☐ GCS documented pre/post
- ☐ SAMPLE obtained
- ☐ Critical findings communicated

**### \*\*5. Pro Tips for Field Use\*\***

1. **\*\*GCS Nuances:\*\***

- Score best response (e.g., if eyes swollen but opens to voice = 3)
- Document changes: "GCS improved from 7 to 12 after naloxone"

2. **\*\*Tool Combinations:\*\***

- Cardiac: OPQRST + SAMPLE + FAST
- Trauma: ABCD + DCAP-BTLS + GCS

3. **\*\*Memory Aids:\*\***

- "Vocalize Commands" = V5 (Oriented)
- "Localize Pain" = M5 (Purposeful)
- "Withdraw" = M4 (Normal reflex)

**### \*\*6. Printable Quick Reference\*\***

**\*\*[Copy This For Your Rig]\*\***

**\*\*GCS Scoring:\*\***

- Eyes: 4=Open, 3=Voice, 2=Pain, 1=None
- Verbal: 5=Oriented, 4=Confused, 3=Words, 2=Sounds, 1=None
- Motor: 6=Obeys, 5=Localizes, 4=Withdraws, 3=Flexion, 2=Extension, 1=None

**\*\*Critical Values:\*\***

- GCS  $\leq 8 \rightarrow$  RSI
- RACE  $\geq 5 \rightarrow$  LVO stroke
- PAT abnormal  $\rightarrow$  Pediatric emergency

