



Objective Opioid Withdrawal Assessment Scale (OOWS)

URN:

Family name:

Given name(s):

Address:

Date of birth:

Sex: M F I

Facility:

Last Opiate Use - Date: / / Time: : AM / PM

Observe the patient during a **5 minute observation period** then indicate a score for each of the opioid withdrawal signs listed below. Add the scores for each item to obtain the total score.

	Date	Time	Bal																	
1. Yawning	0. no yawns	1. > 1 yawn																		
2. Rhinorrhoea	0. < 3 sniffs	1. > 3 sniffs																		
3. Piloerection (observe arm)	0. absent	1. present																		
4. Perspiration	0. absent	1. present																		
5. Lacrimation	0. absent	1. present																		
6. Tremor (hands)	0. absent	1. present																		
7. Mydriasis	0. absent	1. ≥ 3 mm																		
8. Hot and Cold Flushes	0. absent	shivering / huddling for warmth																		
9. Restlessness	0. absent	frequent changes of position																		
10. Vomiting	0. absent	1. present																		
11. Muscle Twitches	0. absent	1. present																		
12. Abdominal Cramps	0. absent	1. holding stomach																		
13. Anxiety	0. absent	1. mild-severe																		
Total																				

Scale (mm)	Blood pressure supine																				
	Blood pressure erect																				
• 1	Pulse																				
• 2	Temperature																				
• 3	Respirations																				
• 4	Perspiration	0 Nil 1 Moist Skin 2 Beads on face & body 3 Profuse, whole body wet																			
• 5	Pupils	+ Reactive - No Reaction B Brisk S Sluggish	Left	Size																	
• 6				Reaction																	
• 7			Right	Size																	
• 8				Reaction																	
	Medication given?																				
	Nurse initials																				

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS BINDING MARGIN

OBJECTIVE OPIOID WITHDRAWAL ASSESSMENT SCALE (OOWS)



Source: Handelsman, L., Cochrane, K. J., Aronson, M. J. Ness, R., Rubinstein K.J., Kanof, P.D. (1987) Two New Rating Scales for Opiate Withdrawal. American Journal of Alcohol Abuse, 13, 293-308.

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