



COMBAT MEDIC/CORPSMAN **PROLONGED CASUALTY CARE**

MODULE 10:

PAIN MANAGEMENT

Richmond Agitation Sedation Score (RASS) Worksheet

01 JUNE 2024



**Committee on
Tactical Combat
Casualty Care
(CoTCCC)**

RICHMOND AGITATION SEDATION SCORE (RASS)

Casualty's receiving analgesia and sedation require close monitoring for life-threatening side-effects of medications.
The Richmond Agitation Sedation Score (RASS) is a useful tool for monitoring casualties during analgesia and sedation, alerting the provider to early signs of decompensation and need for intervention.
Sedation should be maintained at the highest RASS score at which the patient is comfortable (between 0 and 5).
Early teleconsultation should be used whenever there is concern for the use of analgesics and sedatives.

Score	Term	Description	
+4	Combative	Overtly Combative, violent, immediate danger to others/staff	
+3	Very Agitated	Pulls or removes tube(s) or catheter(s); aggressive	
+2	Agitated	Frequent non-purposeful movement, fights ventilator	
+1	Restless	Anxious but movements not aggressive or vigorous	
0	Alert, Calm		
-1	Drowsy	Not fully alert, but has sustained awakening (eye opening/eye contact) to voice (≥ 10 seconds)	Verbal Stimulation
-2	Light Sedation	Briefly awakens with eye contact to voice (< 10 seconds)	
-3	Moderate Sedation	Movement or eye opening to voice (but no eye contact)	
-4	Deep Sedation	No response to voice, but movement or eye opening to physical stimulation	Physical Stimulation
-5	Unarousable	No response to voice or physical stimulation	

Procedure for RASS Assessment:

1. Observe casualty: casualty is alert, restless, or agitated	Score 0 to +4
2. If not alert, state casualty's name and say to open eyes and look at speaker.	Score -1
- Casualty awakens with sustained eye opening and eye contact.	Score -2
- Casualty awakens with eye opening and eye contact, but not sustained.	Score -3
- Casualty has any movement in response to voice but no eye contact.	
3. When no response to verbal stimulation, physically stimulate casualty by shaking shoulder and/or rubbing sternum.	Score -4
- Casualty has any movement to physical stimulation.	
- Casualty has no response to any stimulation.	Score -5

Monitor casualty for appropriate sedation level AND change in RASS score.