

Bush-Francis Catatonia Rating Scale

Click the title of each for a detailed description. Click video for example videos.

1. [Excitement \(video\)](#)

Extreme hyperactivity, constant motor unrest which is apparently non-purposeful. Not to be attributed to akathisia or goal-directed agitation.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Excessive motion, intermittent
- 2= Constant motion, hyperkinetic without rest periods
- 3= Full-blown catatonic excitement, endless frenzied motor activity

2. [Immobility/Stupor \(video\)](#)

Extreme hypoactivity, immobile, minimally responsive to stimuli.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Sits abnormally still, may interact briefly
- 2= Virtually no interaction with external world
- 3= Stuporous, non-reactive to painful stimuli

3. [Mutism \(video\)](#)

Verbally unresponsive or minimally responsive.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Verbally unresponsive to majority of questions; incomprehensible whisper
- 2= Speaks less than 20 words/5 minutes
- 3= No speech

4. [Staring \(video\)](#)

Fixed gaze, little or no visual scanning of environment, decreased blinking.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Poor eye contact, repeatedly gazes less than 20 sec between shifting of attention; decreased blinking
- 2= Gaze held longer than 20 sec, occasionally shifts attention
- 3= Fixed gaze, non-reactive

5. [Posturing/Catalepsy \(video\)](#)

Spontaneous maintenance of posture(s), including mundane (e.g., sitting/standing for long periods without reacting).

- 0= Absent
- 1= Less than one minute
- 2= Greater than one minute, less than 15 minutes
- 3= Bizarre posture, or mundane maintained more than 15 min

6. [Grimacing \(video\)](#)

Maintenance of odd facial expressions.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Less than 10 sec
- 2= Less than 1 min
- 3= Bizarre expression(s) or maintained more than 1 min

7. [Echopraxia/Echolalia \(video\)](#)

Mimicking of examiner's movements/ speech.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Occasional
- 2= Frequent
- 3= Constant

8. [Stereotypy \(video\)](#)

Repetitive, non-goal-directed motor activity (e.g. finger-play; repeatedly touching, patting or rubbing self); abnormality not inherent in act but in its frequency.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Occasional
- 2= Frequent
- 3= Constant

9. [Mannerisms \(video\)](#)

Odd, purposeful movements (hopping or walking tiptoe, saluting passersby or exaggerated caricatures of mundane movements); abnormality inherent in act itself.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Occasional
- 2= Frequent
- 3= Constant

10. [Verbigeration \(video\)](#)

Repetition of phrases or sentences (like a scratched record).

- 0= Absent
- 1= Occasional
- 2= Frequent, difficult to interrupt
- 3= Constant

11. [Rigidity \(video\)](#)

Maintenance of a rigid position despite efforts to be moved, exclude if cog-wheeling or tremor present.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Mild resistance
- 2= Moderate
- 3= Severe, cannot be repositioned

Patient:

Date:

Examiner:

Time:

- State examination
- Interval examination over ___ hr.

12. [Negativism \(video\)](#)

Apparently motiveless resistance to instructions or attempts to move/examine patient. Contrary behavior, does exact opposite of instruction.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Mild resistance and/or occasionally contrary
- 2= Moderate resistance and/or frequently contrary
- 3= Severe resistance and/or continually contrary

13. [Waxy Flexibility \(video\)](#)

During repositioning of patient, patient offers initial resistance before allowing himself to be repositioned, similar to that of a bending candle.

- 0= Absent
- 3= Present

14. [Withdrawal \(video\)](#)

Refusal to eat, drink and/or make eye contact.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Minimal PO intake/ interaction for less than one day
- 2= Minimal PO intake/ interaction for more than one day
- 3= No PO intake/interaction for one day or more

15. [Impulsivity \(video\)](#)

Patient suddenly engages in inappropriate behavior (e.g. runs down hallway, starts screaming or takes off clothes) without provocation. Afterwards can give no, or only a facile explanation.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Occasional
- 2= Frequent
- 3= Constant or not redirectable

16. [Automatic Obedience \(video\)](#)

Exaggerated cooperation with examiner's request or spontaneous continuation of movement requested.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Occasional
- 2= Frequent
- 3= Constant

17. [Mitgehen \(video\)](#)

"Anglepoise lamp" arm raising in response to light pressure of finger, despite instructions to the contrary.

- 0= Absent
- 3= Present

18. [Gegenhalten \(video\)](#)

Resistance to passive movement which is proportional to strength of the stimulus, appears automatic rather than willful.

- 0= Absent
- 3= Present

19. [Ambitendency \(video\)](#)

Patient appears motorically "stuck" in indecisive, hesitant movement.

- 0= Absent
- 3= Present

20. [Grasp Reflex \(video\)](#)

Per neurological exam.

- 0= Absent
- 3= Present

21. [Perseveration \(video\)](#)

Repeatedly returns to same topic or persists with movement.

- 0= Absent
- 3= Present

22. [Combativeness \(video\)](#)

Usually in an undirected manner, with no, or only a facile explanation afterwards.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Occasionally strikes out, low potential for injury
- 2= Frequently strikes out, moderate potential for injury
- 3= Serious danger to others

23. [Autonomic Abnormality \(video\)](#)

Circle: temperature, BP, pulse, respiratory rate, diaphoresis.

- 0= Absent
- 1= Abnormality of one parameter [exclude pre-existing hypertension]
- 2= Abnormality of 2 parameters
- 3= Abnormality of 3 or greater parameter