Clinical Opiate Withdrawal Scale

For each item, circle the number that best describes the patient's signs or symptom. Rate on just the apparent relationship to opiate withdrawal. For example, if heart rate is increased because the patient was jogging just prior to assessment, the increase pulse rate would not add to the score...

Date: Time (military)	
Resting Pulse Rate: beats/minute	GI Upset:
Measured after patient is sitting or lying for 1 minute	• Over last ¹ / ₂ hour
\Box 0 pulse rate 80 or below	□ 0no GI symptoms
\Box 1 pulse rate 81-100	□ 1stomach cramps
\square 2pulse rate 101-120	\square 2nausea or loose stool
\Box 4 pulse rate greater than 120	\Box 3vomiting or diarrhea
- + puise rate greater than 120	\Box 5multiple episodes of diarrhea or vomiting
Sweating:	Tremor:
 Over past ½ hour not accounted for by room temperature 	 Observation of outstretched hands
or patient activity.	$\square 0$ No tremor
\Box 0no report of chills or flushing	\Box 1tremor can be felt, but not observed
\Box 1subjective report of chills or flushing	\square 2slight tremor observable
\Box 2flushed or observable moistness on face	\Box 4gross tremor or muscle twitching
\Box 3beads of sweat on brow or face	- +gross tremor or muscle twitching
\Box 4sweat streaming off face	
Restlessness:	Yawning:
 Observation during assessment 	 Observation during assessment
\Box 0able to sit still	\Box 0no yawning
\Box 1reports difficulty sitting still, but is able to do so	\Box 1yawning once or twice during assessment
\Box 3frequent shifting or extraneous movements of	\Box 2yawning three or more times during assessment
legs/arms	\Box 4yawning several times/minute
\Box 5Unable to sit still for more than a few seconds	yawining several times/ minute
Pupil size:	Anxiety or Irritability:
\Box 0pupils pinned or normal size for room light	$\square 0none$
□ 1pupils possibly larger than normal for room light	\Box 1patient reports increasing irritability or
\Box 2pupils moderately dilated	anxiousness
\Box 5pupils so dilated that only the rim of the iris is	\square 2patient obviously irritable anxious
visible	\Box 4patient so irritable or anxious that participation in
VISIOL	the assessment is difficult
Bone or Joint aches:	Gooseflesh skin:
 If patient was having pain previously, only the additional 	\Box 0skin is smooth
<i>component attributed to opiates withdrawal is scored</i>	\Box 3piloerrection of skin can be felt or hairs standing
\Box 0not present	up on arms
\Box 1mild diffuse discomfort	\Box 5prominent piloerrection
\Box 2patient reports severe diffuse aching of joints/	□ 5prominent prioerrection
muscles	
\Box 4patient is rubbing joints or muscles and is unable to	
sit still because of discomfort	
Runny nose or tearing:	• The total score is the sum of all 11 items
 Not accounted for by cold symptoms or allergies 	• The total score is the sum of all 11 items
\Box 0not present	
\Box 1not present \Box 1nasal stuffiness or unusually moist eyes	
\Box 2nose running or tearing	Total Score:
\Box 4nose constantly running or tears streaming down	
cheeks	

Score: 5-12 = mild; 13-24 = moderate; 25-36 = moderately severe; more than 36 = severe withdrawal