

APPENDIX: 13

TITLE: Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale

REVISED: November 1, 2017

The Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale:

Facial Droop (Have the patient show teeth or smile):

- Normal – both sides of face move equally
- Abnormal – one side of face does not move as well as the other.



Left: Normal, Right: Stroke patient with facial droop (right side of face)

Arm Drift (Patient closes eyes and extends both arms straight out, with palms up, for 10 seconds):

- Normal – both arms move the same or both arms do not move at all (other findings, such as pronator drift, may be helpful)
- Abnormal – one arm does not move or one arm drifts down compared with the other



Abnormal Speech (Have the patient say “you can’t teach an old dog new tricks”):

- Normal – patient uses correct word with not slurring
- Abnormal – patient slurs words, uses the wrong words, or is unable to speak

Interpretation: If any 1 of these 3 signs is abnormal, the probability of a stroke is 72%

