

Wheelchair Skills Test 4.1
Power Wheelchair - Caregiver

Name: _____

Date: _____ Tester: _____

Time start: _____ Time finish: _____

Scoring Guide (see over for details)

✓ = pass, safe

* = fail, unsafe

NP = no part (only for indicated skills)

TE = testing error

Type of Test

Objective - Capacity

Questionnaire - Capacity

Questionnaire - Performance

	Individual Skills	Capacity/ Performance	Safety	Comments
1.	Moves controller away and back			No Part?
2.	Turns controller on and off			
3.	Selects drive modes and speeds			No Part?
4.	Controls tilt function			No Part?
5.	Controls recline function			No Part?
6.	Disengages and engages motors			
7.	Operates battery charger			
8.	Rolls forward 10m			
9.	Rolls forward 10m in 30s			
10.	Rolls backward 5m			
11.	Turns 90° while moving forward ^{L&R}			
12.	Turns 90° while moving backward ^{L&R}			
13.	Turns 180° in place ^{L&R}			
14.	Maneuvers sideways ^{L&R}			
15.	Gets through hinged door in both directions			
16.	Transfers from WC to bench and back			
17.	Rolls 100m			
18.	Avoids moving obstacles ^{L&R}			
19.	Ascends 5° incline			
20.	Descends 5° incline			
21.	Ascends 10° incline			
22.	Descends 10° incline			
23.	Rolls 2m across 5° side-slope ^{L&R}			
24.	Rolls 2m on soft surface			
25.	Gets over 15cm pot-hole			
26.	Gets over 2cm threshold			
27.	Ascends 5cm level change			
28.	Descends 5cm level change			
29.	Gets from ground into wheelchair			
	Total Percentage Scores			

Additional comments: _____

Note: The WST 4.1 Manual should be consulted for scoring details (www.wheelchairskillsprogram.ca).

Scale for Scoring Skill Capacity/Performance

Pass: (on the Data Collection Form, record “P” or ✓)

- Task independently and safely accomplished. Unless otherwise specified, the skill may be performed in any manner. The focus is on the task requirements, not the method used. Aids may be used (section 2.23).
- A pass may be awarded if the subject passed a more difficult version of the same skill (e.g. if a subject successfully ascends a 15cm curb, a pass may be awarded on the 5cm level change without the subject needing to actually perform the latter).

Fail: (on the Data Collection Form, record “F” or ✗)

- Task incomplete.
- Unsafe performance (as defined in section 2.25).
- Likely to be unsafe in the opinion of the clinician or tester (e.g. on the basis of the subject’s description of how a task will be attempted).
- Unwilling to try.
- Has failed an easier version of the same skill (e.g. if the subject cannot roll forward 10m [#5.8], he/she need not be asked to roll 100m [#5.21]).
- If a caregiver is the subject of testing, he/she may not ask the wheelchair occupant for advice or physical assistance in the performance of the skill unless specifically permitted in the caregiver section of the individual skill descriptions (section 5).
- Wheelchair part malfunction.

Scale for Scoring Skill Safety

Safe: (on the Data Collection Form, record “S” or ✓)

- None of the unsafe criteria were met.
- Although a failing capacity score will be awarded in such circumstances, a safe score can be awarded to a person who states that he/she cannot do and/or will not attempt a skill.

Unsafe: (on the Data Collection Form, record “US” or ✗)

- Subject requires appropriate significant spotter intervention to prevent acute injury to the subject or others (section 2.26). Performing a skill quickly is not, in and of itself, unsafe. A significant intervention is one that affects performance of the skill.
- A significant acute injury occurred. This includes sprains, strains, fractures or head injury, but does not include minor blisters, abrasions or superficial lacerations. Poor technique that may or may not lead to overuse injury at a later time should be noted in the comments section, but does not warrant awarding an unsafe score.
- During screening questions (section 3), the subject describes a method of performing a skill that the tester considers dangerous.
- If a caregiver creates more than minimal discomfort or potential harm (e.g. using excessive force with the knee against a flexible backrest of the wheelchair to help push the wheelchair through gravel).
- Specific risks and whether they warrant an unsafe score or merely a recorded comment can be found later in the section on individual skills (section 5).

Note: If an easier version of the skill has been failed, the skill under consideration is not objectively tested, so the tester needs to determine whether the attempt would have been safe or unsafe on the basis of interview only.

For both Capacity/Performance and Safety

No Part: (on the Data Collection Form, record “NP”)

- As for Capacity scoring (Table 1).

Testing Error: (on the Data Collection Form, record “TE”)

- As for Capacity scoring (Table 1).

Total Capacity/Performance Score = # passed skills _____ / (32 - # NP - #TE) X 100% = _____ %

Total Safety Score = # safe skills _____ / (32 - # NP - #TE) X 100% = _____ %