



Pro Forma

Section 4 RTA Assessment

October 2012

Confidential

Note: This form has been designed by Prof Ian F Wall and updated by Prof Margaret Stark on behalf of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine for use by Forensic Physicians (also known as Forensic Medical Examiners or Police Surgeons) who have been trained in the use of Standardised Impairment Tests. The form is provided to assist Forensic Physicians in determining whether a person has a condition, which may be due to drink or drugs and not necessarily due to 'impairment'. It is to be regarded as an aide-memoire and it is therefore not necessary for all parts of the form to be completed. Some details are included so as to aid possible subsequent assessment of fitness for detention in custody. Where a test is abandoned the reasons should be recorded in Additional Particulars at 11. If the questions are read from a card, the wording should be identical to those used in this form and the card must remain available for production at court. On completion this form is the personal property of the examining doctor. Whilst this form is designed to provide for the recording of findings following the examination of a subject to determine both the persons general medical condition and the degree of any impairment present, it is important to stress that the primary question police require to be answered is 'Has the person a condition which might be due to some drug?' It is not necessary to determine impairment or unfitness to drive.

1. General details

Name _____

Address _____

Date of birth _____

Occupation _____

Police station _____

Custody record No _____

PNC Warning _____

Arrest date _____ Arrest time _____

Time called _____ Time arrived _____

Time examination started _____

Time examination completed _____

Time case completed _____

2. Background information

Roadside breath test _____

Intoximeter readings _____

Information from arresting officer (PC _____)

Field impairment test results _____

Information from Custody Officer (PS _____)

3. Consent

Consent witnessed by _____

'My name is Dr _____ and I have been asked to examine you to ascertain whether in my opinion, you have a condition which might be due to drink or drugs. You should be aware that any conversation with me might not be treated confidentially, as I may have to give a report to police and the court. You may decline this examination.'

'Do you agree to a medical examination?' YES NO

If NO, make observations of accused's behaviour _____

If YES, consider written consent _____

I consent to a medical examination as explained to me above:

Signed _____

4. Medical consultation

Consultation commenced at _____ hours

History of recent events _____

Current medical problems _____

Past medical history _____

Hearing problems _____

Visual problems _____

Diabetes _____

Renal impairment _____

Balance problems _____

Asthma _____

Epilepsy _____

Hepatic impairment _____

Alcohol intake and times in last 24 hours _____

Weekly alcohol intake _____ Units per week

Time last ate _____

Time last slept _____

Past psychiatric history _____

Previous self-harm attempts _____

Social history _____

Relevant educational history (to assess if learning disability etc)

Medication	Dose	Duration	Route	Last taken
Prescribed				
OTC medicines				
Non-prescribed				

5. Medical examination

Examined in presence of _____

Specimen of handwriting _____

General demeanour _____

Areas of body examined for injuries _____

State of clothing _____

Mental state _____

Speech _____

Breath _____

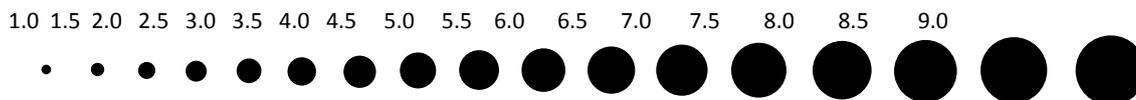
Mouth _____

Drug misuse	CVS / other	RS	GIT	CNS
Needle marks	Initial pulse	PN	Soft	Power
Shivering	BP	BS	Tender	Tone
Yawning	Temp	Added sounds	LKKS	Reflexes
Rhinorrhoea	Heart sounds	VR	BS	Coordination
Gooseflesh	Blood sugar	PEFR		Gait
Lachrymation	A V P U			Romberg's

Other abnormal findings _____

Eye Examination

Use this gauge or a printed laminate card to assess pupil size



Eye signs	Right	Left
Conjunctiva		
Pupil size		
Direct reflex		
Indirect reflex		
Visual acuity		
Visual fields		
Horizontal gaze		
Lack of smooth pursuit		

Vertical gaze nystagmus YES NO

Convergence YES NO

Spectacles YES NO

Contact lens YES NO

Other abnormal eye findings _____

The following tests are performed in some jurisdictions by police at the roadside. These tests do not constitute a definitive medical assessment but may be useful evidence taken with the overall history and examination. Indicate whether any test is not done and state the reason why it was not felt to be appropriate.

6. Impairment tests

"I would like you to perform a series of tests to enable me to ascertain whether you have a condition which might be due to drink or drugs, or whether your ability to drive is impaired by drink or drugs. The tests are simple and part of my evaluation will be based on your ability to follow instructions. If you do not understand any of the instructions, please tell me so that I can clarify them."

a. Romberg test

"Stand up straight with your feet together and your arms down by your sides. Maintain that position while I give you the remaining instructions. Do not begin until I tell you to do so. When I tell you to start, you must tilt your head back slightly and close your eyes (demonstrate but do not close your eyes). Keep your head tilted backwards with your eyes closed until you think that 30 seconds have passed, then bring your head forward and say 'Stop'".

"Do you understand?" YES NO

Able to stand still during instructions YES NO

Excessive body sway seen YES NO

Internal body clock 30 seconds at _____ secs

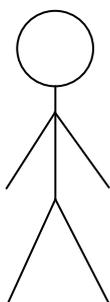
"How long was that?"

Able to complete test YES NO

Comments _____

Front/back view

(indicate direction & degree of sway)



Side view

(indicate direction & degree of sway)



b. Walk and turn test

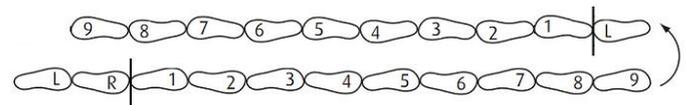
Identify a real or imaginary line.

"Place your left foot on the line. Place your right foot on the line in front of your left touching heel to toe (demonstrate). Put your arms down by your sides and keep them there throughout the entire test. Maintain that position whilst I give you the remaining instructions".

"Do you understand?" YES NO

"When I say start, you must take nine heel-to-toe steps along the line. On each step the heel of the foot must be placed against the toe of the other foot (demonstrate). When the ninth step has been taken, you must leave the front foot on the line and turn around using a series of small steps with the other foot. After turning you must take another nine heel-to-toe steps along the line. You must watch your feet at all times and count each step out loud. Once you start walking do not stop until you have completed the test".

"Do you understand?" YES NO



Any deviation from the instructions and any observations should be indicated below and on the diagram above.

Able to stand still during instructions YES NO

Start too soon YES NO

Stops walking YES NO

Turn Correct Incorrect

Misses heel/toe YES NO

Steps off line YES NO

Raises arm YES NO

Correct step count YES NO

Notes _____

c. One leg stand test

"Stand with your feet together with your arms by your sides. Maintain that position while I give you the remaining instructions. Do not begin until I tell you to start."

"Do you understand?" YES NO

"When I tell you to start you must raise your right foot six to eight inches off the ground, keeping your leg straight and your toes pointing forward, with your foot parallel to the ground (demonstrate). You must keep your arms by your sides and keep looking at your elevated foot while counting out loud in the following manner, 'one thousand and one, one thousand and two' and so on until I tell you to stop."

"Do you understand?" YES NO

Repeat procedure with each foot

SWAYS

Left YES * NO Right YES * NO

HOPS

Left YES * NO Right YES * NO

PUT FOOT DOWN

Left YES * NO Right YES * NO

RAISES ARMS

Left YES * NO Right YES * NO

* If YES – record at what point(s) in the count that it occurred, i.e. one thousand and six (1006)

7. Additional particulars

(See notes at top of page 1) _____

Final pulse _____ Consultation ended at _____ hours

d. Finger and nose test

"Stand with your feet together and your arms in this position. (Demonstrate extending both hands out in front, palms side up and closed with the index finger of both hands extended). Maintain that position while I give you the remaining instructions. Do not begin until I tell you to start. When I tell you to start you must tilt your head back slightly (demonstrate) and close your eyes. When I tell you which hand to move, you must touch the tip of your nose with the tip of that finger and lower your hand once you have done so (demonstrate)."

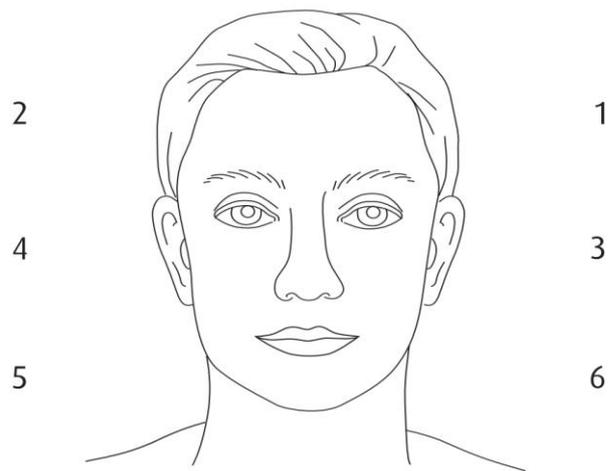
"Do you understand?" YES NO

Call out the hands in the following order, left, right, left, right, right, left.

Excessive body sway YES NO

Correct hand use YES NO

Additional comments _____



Draw lines to spots touched

8. Conclusions

Is the person fit to be detained? YES NO

If NO, make note of reasons and subsequent action _____

Is it likely there was a condition present at the time the detainee was alleged to have been driving which might be due to a drug? YES NO

If YES, make note of the findings in the history and examination which supports this _____

Police officer advised that a condition present that might be due to a drug at _____ hours

Is there impairment present now? YES NO

If YES, make note of reason _____

If there is a condition present that might be due to a drug, the police officer will proceed as on Form MG DD/B at B24.

9. Subsequent procedures

Blood or urine decision

Are there medical reasons for the sample not to be blood?

YES NO

If YES, make note of reason (Officer will then proceed to require urine) _____

10. Consent for blood sample

Consent witnessed by _____

"My name is Dr. _____ and I have been asked to take a sample of blood from you which will be tested for alcohol and/or drugs"

"Do you agree to a blood test?" YES NO

If NO ask "Is there any medical reason why I should not obtain a sample of blood from you?"

Make notes of accused's reasons _____

If YES, details as below

Blood specimen successfully taken at _____ hours

Site _____

Blood specimen given to _____

at _____ hours

If venepuncture unsuccessful give reasons _____

(Police can still proceed with a urine requirement on form MG DD/B).

It is also useful to assist the Police Officer in completion of Form MG DD/E Drugs Sample Information Form.