



The V-pGALS musculoskeletal assessment

(with minor amends to original pGALS*)

Screening Questions

- Do you (or does your child) have any pain or stiffness in your (their) joints, muscles or back? Pain scale 0-10* Morning stiffness or gelling [minutes]*
- Do you (or does your child) have any difficulty getting yourself (him/ herself) dressed without any help? Or lifting an object above shoulder level?
- Do you (or does your child) have any problem going up and down steps? Or being able to squat? Or walking?

Gait		
Figure	Manoeuvres	What is being assessed ?
25 111	Observe the child standing (from front, back and	Posture (habitus, profile, skin rashes) Deformity (leg length inequality,
3540	sides)	alignment, scoliosis, joint swelling, muscle wasting, flat feet)
111 37 1 102	Observe the child walking, turning and returning, then	Check for limp and balance and co- ordination
	"Walk on your tip- toes", then "Walk on your heels"	Feet, ankles, subtalar, midtarsal and small joints of feet and toes
	Balance on Tip Toes*	Foot posture (check medial longitudinal arch when on tip toes)





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Arms		
Figure	Manoeuvres	What is being assessed ?
	"Hold your hands out straight in front of you"	Forward flexion of shoulders Elbow extension, wrist extension, extension of small joints of fingers Observation (nails, skin, muscles, deformity)
	"Turn your hands over & make a fist"	Wrist supination, Elbow supination, Flexion of small joints of fingers
1.W.	"Hold up each of your hands and "Make a 'Cat Claw' or 'Monkey paw'*	Flexion of small joints of fingers Ensure lateral view
they true	"Pinch your index finger & thumb together"	Manual dexterity Co-ordination of small joints of fingers
Tank Tank	"Touch the tips of your fingers"	Manual dexterity Co-ordination of small joints of fingers
and the second s	Squeeze the metacarpophalangeal joints Tenderness grade 0-10	Metacarpophalangeal joints (for tenderness)

"Put your hands together palm to palms and "Put your hands together back to back"	Extension of small joints of fingers, Wrist extension / flexion, Elbow flexion
"Reach up, 'touch the sky', and "Look at the ceiling"	
"Put your hands behind your neck"	Shoulder abduction, External rotation of shoulders, Elbow flexion





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Legs		
Figure	Manoeuvres	What is being assessed ?
1 June	Standing Stand on 1 leg	Observation (nails, skin, muscles, posture, alignment, leg length, foot arches, heel alignment, joint swelling) Balance, Trendelenberg
60.	Squat*	Fluency, balance Proximal muscle strength Active hip, knee and ankle movement
65.	Sit cross legged* and stand up	Fluency, balance Proximal muscle strength Active hip, knee and ankle movement
I.M.	Leg roll supine lying*	Hip internal and external rotation
1, 14.	Prone lying* 'W' and 'X' leg position*	Hip internal and external rotation

Passive movement (full flexion, internal rotation of hip	Hip flexion and internal rotation
Feel knee for warmth and swelling Feel for effusion (patellar tap or cross fluctuation)	Observation (nails, skin, soles of feet, muscles, posture, alignment, leg length, foot arches, heel alignment, joint swelling)
Active movement of knees & feel for crepitus (hand on knee) (passive flexion)	Active knee flexion and extension Full extend and heel to buttock





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Spine		
Figure	Manoeuvres	What is being assessed ?
	"Open wide and put 3 (child's own) fingers in your mouth" 1-3 fingers* & jaw move side-to-side*	Temporomandibular joints (check deviation of jaw movement)
	"Try and touch your shoulder with your ear"	Cervical spine lateral flexion
	"Bend forwards & touch your toes"	Thoraco-lumbar spine forward flexion (check for scoliosis)
	Child lying prone (shown) or standing* Assess sacroiliac joint tenderness [grade 0-10]*	Sacroiliac joints