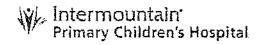
Rancho Levels Overview



Pediatric Acquired Brain Injury Hondoat Series

The Rancho Levels of Cognitive Functioning is a useful tool during rehabilitation of the person with a brain injury. Cognition refers to a person's thinking and memory skills. The levels describe typical stages of recovery after a brain injury. Identifying which level the child is at, helps the rehab team focus on the child's abilities and develop an appropriate treatment plan. Each person will progress at their own rate, depending on the severity of the brain damage, the location of the injury in the brain and length of time since the brain injury. Some individuals will pass through each of the ten levels, some will skip levels, and others may only progress to a certain level.

Rancho Levels of Cognitive Functioning

Level	Child's Response
Level I No response - total assistance	Complete absence of a change in behavior when stimulated Appears to be in a deep sleep
Level II Generalized response — total assistance Level III Localized response — total assistance	Non-purposeful body movement
Level IV Confused / agitated — maximal assistance	Agitated Constant movement May try to get out of bed Thrashing about in bed Extra sensitive to movement, light, noise Confused May not make sense Very short attention span May be rude or aggressive Unsafe
Level V Confused inappropriate / non- agitated — maximal assistance	Appears alert Follows simple command most of the time Easily distracted Confused Memory severely impaired Unable to separate past from present Inappropriate Agitated behavior remains Conversations disjointed

Level VI	Confused, appropriate – moderate assistance
Confused, appropriate –	Behavior is less bizarre and more appropriate
moderate assistance	Follows simple directions
inqueracy assistation	Performs simple previously learned tasks with help
.	Newly learned tasks quickly forgotten
	Becomes confused in unfamiliar settings
Level VII	Oriented to person and place within familiar environments, needs moderate
Automatic appropriate –	assistance for orientation to time
minimal assistance	Performs highly familiar tasks with minimal assistance
	Remembers some things but at a slower pace, some carry-over of new
	learning
	Unaware of specific impairments, unsafe without supervision in unfamiliar
	settings
	May be oppositional and uncooperative
Level VIII	Alert and oriented
Purposeful appropriate	Remembers past and present events
standby assistance	Uses new skills appropriately
	Independent with age-appropriate activities
	May exhibit ongoing deficits
	 Decreased ability to learn; slower thought processing
	 Limited tolerance for stress
	Difficulty with reasoning and judgment
	Confusion in new or unusual situations
	Easily fatigued
	Self-centered
Level IX	Independently shifts back and forth between tasks and completes them
Purposeful appropriate –	accurately for at least 2 hours.
standby assistance upon request	Uses daily schedule, planner, "to do" lists and records information for later
	use with assistance when requests.
	Initiates and carries out familiar personal, household, work and leisure tasks
	with assistance when requested.
	Aware of impairments when they interfere with activities but needs help to
	anticipate problems and avoid them
	May be easily irritable and has low tolerance for frustration.
Level X	Able to handle multiple tasks simultaneously in all environments but may
Purposeful/appropriate –	require periodic breaks.
modified independent	Able to maintain memory devices
	Independently initiates and carries out steps to familiar and unfamiliar
	personal, household, work and leisure tasks but may need more time or
	strategies to complete them.
	Periods of depression may occur
	Irritability and low frustration when sick, tired or under emotional stress
	Social interactions are consistently appropriate.

Adapted with permission from "Traumatic Brain Injury in Children and Teens: A.Guide for Families" 2002. Produced by the New Hampshire Emergency Medical Services for Children Project at Dartmouth Medical School.