

VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FUNCTIONAL MOVEMENT SCREEN

The following is a script to use while administering the FMS. For consistency throughout all screens, this script should be used during each screen. The bold words represent what you should say to the client.

Please let me know if there is any pain while performing any of the following movements.

DEEP SQUAT

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: DOWEL

INSTRUCTIONS

- **Stand tall with your feet approximately shoulder width apart and toes pointing forward.**
- **Grasp the dowel in both hands and place it horizontally on top of your head so your shoulders and elbows are at 90 degrees.**
- **Press the dowel so that it is directly above your head.**
- **While maintaining an upright torso, and keeping your heels and the dowel in position, descend as deep as possible.**
- **Hold the descended position for a count of one, then return to the starting position.**
- **Do you understand the instructions?**

Score the movement.

The client can perform the move up to three times total if necessary.

If a score of three is not achieved, repeat above instructions using the 2 x 6 under the client's heels.

HURDLE STEP

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: DOWEL, HURDLE

INSTRUCTIONS

- Stand tall with your feet together and toes touching the test kit.
- Grasp the dowel with both hands and place it behind your neck and across the shoulders.
- While maintaining an upright posture, raise the right leg and step over the hurdle, making sure to raise the foot towards the shin and maintaining foot alignment with the ankle, knee and hip.
- Touch the floor with the heel and return to the starting position while maintaining foot alignment with the ankle, knee and hip.
- Do you understand these instructions?

Score the moving leg.

Repeat the test on the other side.

Repeat two times per side if necessary.

INLINE LUNGE

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: DOWEL, 2X6

INSTRUCTIONS

- Place the dowel along the spine so it touches the back of your head, your upper back and the middle of the buttocks.
- While grasping the dowel, your right hand should be against the back of your neck, and the left hand should be against your lower back.
- Step onto the 2x6 with a flat right foot and your toe on the zero mark.
- The left heel should be placed at _____ mark. *This is the tibial measurement marker.*
- Both toes must be pointing forward, with feet flat.
- Maintaining an upright posture so the dowel stays in contact with your head, upper back and top of the buttocks, descend into a lunge position so the right knee touches the 2x6 behind your left heel.
- Return to the starting position.
- Do you understand these instructions?

Score the movement.

Repeat the test on the other side.

Repeat two times per side if necessary.

SHOULDER MOBILITY

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: MEASURING DEVICE

INSTRUCTIONS

- Stand tall with your feet together and arms hanging comfortably.
- Make a fist so your fingers are around your thumbs.
- In one motion, place the right fist over head and down your back as far as possible while simultaneously taking your left fist up your back as far as possible.
- Do not “creep” your hands closer after their initial placement.
- Do you understand these instructions?

Measure the distance between the two closest points of each fist.

Score the movement.

Repeat the test on the other side.

ACTIVE SCAPULAR STABILITY (SHOULDER CLEARING)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Stand tall with your feet together and arms hanging comfortably.
- Place your right palm on the front of your left shoulder.
- While maintaining palm placement, raise your right elbow as high as possible.
- Do you feel any pain?

Repeat the test on the other side.

ACTIVE STRAIGHT-LEG RAISE

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: DOWEL, MEASURING DEVICE, 2X6

INSTRUCTIONS

- Lay flat with the back of your knees against the 2x6 with your toes pointing up.
- Place both arms next to your body with the palms facing up.
- Pull the toes of your right foot toward your shin.
- With the right leg remaining straight and the back of your left knee maintaining contact with the 2x6, raise your right foot as high as possible.
- Do you understand these instructions?

Score the movement.

Repeat the test on the other side.

TRUNK STABILITY PUSHUP

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: NONE

INSTRUCTIONS

- Lie face down with your arms extended overhead and your hands shoulder width apart.
- Pull your thumbs down in line with the ___ (forehead for men, chin for women).
- With your legs together, pull your toes toward the shins and lift your knees and elbows off the ground.
- While maintaining a rigid torso, push your body as one unit into a pushup position.
- Do you understand these instructions?

Score the movement.

Repeat two times if necessary.

Repeat the instructions with appropriate hand placement if necessary.

SPINAL EXTENSION CLEARING

INSTRUCTIONS

- While lying on your stomach, place your hands, palms down, under your shoulders.
- With no lower body movement, press your chest off the surface as much as possible by straightening your elbows.
- Do you understand these instructions?
- Do you feel any pain?

ROTARY STABILITY

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: 2 X 6

INSTRUCTIONS

- **Get on your hands and knees over the 2x6 so your hands are under your shoulders and your knees are under your hips.**
- **The thumbs, knees and toes must contact the sides of the 2x6, and the toes must be pulled toward the shins.**
- **At the same time, reach your right hand forward and right leg backward, like you are flying.**
- **Then without touching down, touch your right elbow to your right knee directly over the 2x6.**
- **Return to the extended position.**
- **Return to the start position.**
- **Do you understand these instructions?**

Score the movement.

Repeat the test on the other side.

If necessary, instruct the client to use a diagonal pattern of right arm and left leg.

Repeat the diagonal pattern with left arm and right leg.

Score the movement.

SPINAL FLEXION CLEARING

INSTRUCTIONS

- **Get on all fours, and rock your hips toward your heels.**
- **Lower your chest to your knees, and reach your hands in front of your body as far as possible.**
- **Do you understand these instructions?**
- **Do you feel any pain?**