

Patient last name: .....

Date of birth: .... / .... / .....

Patient first name: .....

Date: .... / .... / .....

# Tinetti balance assessment tool

## BALANCE SECTION

Patient is seated in hard, armless chair

		Date		
Sitting Balance	Leans or slides in chair Steady, safe	= 0 = 1		
Rises from chair	Unable to without help Able, uses arms to help Able without use of arms	= 0 = 1 = 2		
Attempts to rise	Unable to without help Able, requires > 1 attempt Able to rise, 1 attempt	= 0 = 1 = 2		
Immediate standing Balance (first 5 seconds)	Unsteady (staggers, moves feet, trunk sway) Steady but uses walker or other support Steady without walker or other support = 2	= 0 = 1		
Standing balance	Unsteady Steady but wide stance and uses support Narrow stance without support	= 0 = 1 = 2		
Nudged	Begins to fall Staggers, grabs, catches self Steady	= 0 = 1 = 2		
Eyes closed	Unsteady Steady	= 0 = 1		
Turning 360 degrees	Discontinuous steps Continuous	= 0 = 1		
	Unsteady (grabs, staggers) Steady	= 0 = 1		
Sitting down	Unsafe (misjudged distance, falls into chair) Uses arms or not a smooth motion Safe, smooth motion	= 0 = 1 = 2		
	<b>Balance score</b>		<b>/16</b>	<b>/16</b>

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**GAIT SECTION**

Patient stands with therapist, walks across room (+/- aids), first at usual pace, then at rapid pace.

		Date		
Indication of gait (Immediately after told to 'go'.)	Any hesitancy or multiple attempts No hesitancy	= 0 = 1		
Step length and height	Step to Step through R Step through L	= 0 = 1 = 1		
Foot clearance	Foot drop L foot clears floor R foot clears floor	= 0 = 1 = 1		
Step symmetry	Right and left step length not equal Right and left step length appear equal	= 0 = 1		
Step continuity	Stopping or discontinuity between steps Steps appear continuous	= 0 = 1		
Path	Marked deviation Mild/moderate deviation or uses w. aid Straight without w. aid	= 0 = 1 = 2		
Trunk	Marked sway or uses w. aid No sway but flex. knees or back or uses arms for stability No sway, flex., use of arms or w. aid	= 0 = 1 = 2		
Walking time	Heels apart Heels almost touching while walking	= 0 = 1		
	<b>Gait score</b>	/12	/12	
	<b>Balance score carried forward</b>	/16	/16	
	<b>Total Score = Balance + Gait score</b>	/28	/28	

**Risk Indicators:**

Tinetti Tool Score	Risk of Falls
≤18	High
19-23	Moderate
≥24	Low