



MESA PSG  
SLEEP READING CENTER

SRC MANUAL OF OPERATIONS  
and  
SCORING RULES

# Table of Contents

	<b>Page Number</b>	
1. Objectives	4	
2. Structure	4	
3. Certification and QA	5	
3.2 Certification of Scorers		
4. Quality Assurance and Quality Control	6	
4.1 Weekly QA Exercises at the SRC		
4.2 Tracking of QA/QC Data	7	
4.3 Outlier Checks		
4.3.1 Study-by-study outlier review		
4.3.2 Batch outlier review		
4.4 External Review of Scoring Reliability		
5. Data Processing	8	
5.1 Study Receipt		
5.2 Offline Automatic Analysis		
5.3 Preliminary Review	8	
5.4 Feedback of Data to the Sites		
5.5 Assignment of Studies to Scorers		
5.6 Quality Grades (QS Form)	9	
5.7 Scored Sleep Data		
5.8 Archival of Data		
5.9 Procedures for processing studies		
6. Scoring Procedures	12	
6.1 Overview of Scoring		
6.2 Scoring Rules	15	
6.2.1 Rules for assigning epoch-specific sleep score		15
6.2.2 Sleep onset	16	
6.2.3 EEG arousal	16	
6.2.4 Rules for assigning sleep stages when arousal is present in the epoch	17	
6.2.5 Episodic events in sleep	18	
6.2.6 Rules for assigning sleep stages	19	
6.2.7 Scoring respiratory events	23	
6.2.8 Dealing with ambiguous respiratory events	25	
6.3 Scoring PLMs		
7. QS Form - Scoring Notes	28	
Appendix A – Sample QS Form	36	
Appendix B – Sample Participant Feedback – Sleep Report	38	

# MESA Reading Center Staff

Jean Arnold, Judy Boucher, Daniel Mobley, Rawan Nawabit, Susan Redline,  
Nancy Scott, and Susan Surovec

## A Note to Users

The procedures and scoring rules developed and/or adapted for the research studies were done for the purposes of obtaining consistent (reliable), objective data for large numbers of individuals studied with the same equipment in unattended settings for the purposes of developing a large and versatile research database. Records were scored without knowledge of the demographic or clinical history of participants and without any attempt to diagnose clinical disorders. A summary of the ability of these procedures, implemented early in the Sleep Heart Health Study, the first multi-center sleep study that we participated in, to achieve reliable data can be found in *Sleep 21: 749- 758. 1998*. Some of the scoring rules are specific to the use of Compumedics software and may need to be modified when using different systems.

### Sensors Used

- EEG surface electrodes - Grass brand gold disk surface electrodes were used for FPz (EOG C), E1 (EOG L), E2 (EOG R), L Chin (EMG+), C Chin (EMG-), Fz (EEG1+), Cz (EEG1-jumpered to EEG2+), Oz (EEG2-); Centrals: C4 (EXG+), M1 (EXG-).
- GND (NEG) – Ground Reference electrode was placed just below the left clavicle, ECG (2 snap electrodes): ECG- was placed 3-5 cm below the midpoint of the right subclavicle, and ECG+ was placed between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> rib on the left side. Occasional modesty issues necessitated altering placement to right subclavicle- left subclavicle. Modesty issues allowed for slight adjustments in placement, but the left subclavicle should have always been the GND (NEG) electrode.
- Oximeter: the Nonin 8000J Flex oximeter finger sensor was used and output a plethysomograph signal. The Compumedics collection software could provide assessment of oximetry quality with a signal called OXSTAT. OXSTAT was calibrated to the oximetry signal and gave 4 levels of signal quality: Good, Marginal, Poor and Off.
- Salter ThermiSense<sup>®</sup>; Oral/Nasal Thermal Airflow Sensing System 5700B with adaptor implemented in September 2011. Experienced signal problems with original ThermiSense version used and changed to this version after testing and receiving better signal. This change required a configuration change to the Somte and a change in the Compumedics Data Card Manager software. The AUX channel settings was changed to the “AC” setting for both. This resulted in improved signal.
- Nasal Airflow Pressure-Salter Adult Nasal Cannula w/Thermister Holder.
- Effort Belts: Compumedics Reuseable Inductive Belts for Summit IP/Somte Systems.
- Light sensor: None. Participants provided bedtime upon returning the recording unit
- Leg Piezo sensors (Compumedics) attached to the left and right lower leg. The Somte used a single piezo tied to one channel of data.
- Position: PIB contained a built in position sensor which had to be hand tested prior to each recording to verify accuracy.
- PIB Vest specifically designed for Somte was worn on the upper chest and held the PIB unit.

# SRC MANUAL OF OPERATIONS

## 1. OBJECTIVES

The Sleep Reading Center (SRC) will:

- Provide centralized training for aspects of MESA related to the performance of polysomnograms (PSGs).
- Provide ongoing technical support for the performance of sleep studies, providing “second line” advice regarding troubleshooting of problem studies (after consultation with local resources), and acting as a liaison with the equipment supplier to identify equipment problems and solutions.
- Provide timely review (for quality and medical alerts) and scoring of all records, generating reports needed for participant feedback and data files for central (Coordinating Center - CC) processing.
- Provide complete scoring of all sleep studies, with generation of reports that summarize key sleep and respiratory data.
- Participate in on-going quality assurance efforts to maintain high levels of scoring accuracy and technical performance of tests at the field sites. These include assistance in troubleshooting site-specific and study-wide problems, perform site visits, report generation, and lead regular conference calls with technicians and co-investigators.
- Produce and archive a clean, edited data set of raw and scored polysomnographs.
- Maintain a data dictionary relevant to polysomnograph variables.

## 2. STRUCTURE

The Sleep Reading Center (SRC) will be directed by Susan Redline, MD, MPH. She will hire and assist in the training of a Chief Polysomnologist/Quality Control Manager, and PSG scorers, and be ultimately responsible for all goals specified above.

The Chief Polysomnologist/Quality Control Manager (CP/QCM) will be directly responsible for certification of scorers and central training of field research assistants. S/he will participate in the development of teaching materials for training and for procedures for certifying scorers and assuring high levels of accuracy and reproducibility of scoring procedures. S/he or designated certified scorer will review each PSG record within 72 hours of its receipt at the SRC, identifying medical alerts for priority scoring, and providing feedback on the quality of studies received to field site technicians, and assist in identifying equipment problems. The CP will monitor scorers' performance, and provide support for interpreting ambiguous studies. S/he will implement on-going procedures for assuring accuracy and reproducibility of scored procedures.

Two to Three scorers will be charged with the responsibility of directly scoring all records. They will be charged with the task of scoring 3-4 records/day and participating in scoring QA procedures.

### **3. CERTIFICATION AND QA**

#### **3.1. Certification of Scorers.**

Each scorer will be required to demonstrate a complete understanding of scoring rules and ability to articulate reasons for assigning epoch by epoch codes for sleep and respiratory scoring. This will be judged by review of several records with the CP/QCM or a physician-investigator.

Each novice scorer will be required to score 50 records under the supervision of a certified scorer. Ten of these records will be selected from a standardized score set. Data from these 10 records must be within a 95% level of agreement with a senior scorer for summary respiratory disturbance index (RDI), a 90% level of agreement for sleep stages and a 85% level of agreement for arousal index.

A certified scorer will review (epoch by epoch) the first 10 records scored by each novice scorer after certification. After that a random 20% of the first 100 records will be checked.

## **4. QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL**

### **4.1. Weekly QA Exercises at the SRC**

Scorers' staff meetings will be conducted at the SRC, with dedication of between 4 to 8 hours of time per month for the scorers to meet and discuss scoring issues. The bi-monthly exercises will be organized by the Chief Polysomnologist or designated Senior Scoring Staff Member with topics that will reflect ongoing needs as identified by the staff or by the CP/QC Manager. These exercises will include:

- scoring of randomly chosen epochs;
- scoring of problem records/epochs;
- discussions of any problematic rules/examples identified during scoring
- rotating "paired" scoring exercises

Exercises will include individual scoring with follow-up discussion of any discrepancies in assigned scores. A discussion, with participation of SRC investigators, will establish a "consensus" score for discrepant records. Results of discrepancies between any scorers will be reviewed at weekly meetings with investigators. The results of the deliberations will be kept on file. This will include copies of ambiguous records and a summary of any arbitration.

Examples of organized meetings include:

- **QA Exercises:** At least monthly, individual scorers will score the same 50 epochs from a selected study. Most studies for QA scoring will be chosen randomly; however, scorers also will identify problematic studies that may show useful training/teaching points during QA exercises. Scoring of such designated studies will be recorded on an epoch by epoch basis. Differences in any epoch or event assignment between scorers will be discussed during the weekly QA meeting. Results of this discussion will be noted on the separate form (group consensus). When a group consensus cannot be reached, the epoch or event will be designated "indeterminate". Data will be entered into a database and summarized quarterly for internal QA tracking.
- **Scoring Exercises:** On the weeks when no QA exercise is performed, 30-60 minutes of paired scoring (one scorer scoring, one watching) or team scoring (with group members acting as a single unit) will be done. Noted differences will be discussed after the scoring exercise. Scorers will rotate roles, partners, and teams so that all interactions occur over any given time period.
- **Studies which pose difficulties in scoring or present interesting problems** will be reviewed by the entire SRC staff during weekly meetings. Minutes from these meetings and printed copies of problem epochs will be maintained.

## **4.2. Tracking of QA/QC Data**

The CP/QCM will track two types of data: data from the actual scored records and data generated during QA exercises. Using actual scored data, the overall mean RDI, sleep stage values and arousal indexes will be tracked for each scorer. If average values differ by > 15% for any given scorer, those records will be reviewed by the CP/QCM. The SRC Director will determine whether re-training and re-standardization are required. Using data from the QA exercises, levels of agreement will be determined among scorers and trends tracked over time. Any scorer identified to deviate excessively (>10% from the consensus statement) on 3 consecutive exercises will be “re-trained.” “Re-training” will be considered successful if review of at least 5 additional studies demonstrates no deviation from scoring protocol, and the subsequent QA exercises show no deviations in performance compared to scoring assignments made by the other scorers.

At monthly QA meetings, the statistics summarizing inter-and intra-scorer variability will be reviewed by the SRC staff. They will identify any explanations for differences. If differences between scorers can not be explained by real differences in the studies assigned to any given scorer in any given time period, scorers noted to score differently will score together, concentrating on the areas where differences were noted. The QCM will assign a senior scorer to review consecutive records and reinstruct the scorer. Subsequent scoring will be monitored until conformity is demonstrated.

## **4.3. Outlier Checks**

### **4.3.1 Study-by-study outlier review**

After each study is scored and an initial report is generated, the scorer will use a computer program to identify extreme outliers. New reports will be generated if any editing of the record is required.

### **4.3.2 Batch outlier review**

On a weekly basis, prior to sending reports to sites, the reports will be subjected to a secondary review for outliers. Any records with outliers so identified will be checked to ascertain if this outlier was documented by scorer on the QS form. If no documentation is found on the QS form, the study will be returned to the scorer for verification or correction as needed.

On a weekly basis, scored PSG data will be imported into a permanent SAS file. Prior to importing these data, it will be subjected to a third check for outliers.

## **4.4. External Review of Scoring Reliability**

The Coordinating Center and/or designated Sleep Polysomnography (PSG) Committee will establish methods for tracking scoring reliability and drift. This includes re-processing of records for reliability exercises and generation of summary data for each scorer. The overall mean for: RDI, sleep stage percentage, and arousal indexes will be calculated for each scorer over discrete time periods (monthly to quarterly) and reported to the PSG Subcommittee/Coordinating Center (CC). Intra- and inter-reader differences in the summary data for RDI, sleep stages, and arousal indices will be determined. The SRC/CC will monitor intra- and inter-reader reliability to determine the threshold for requiring remediation, including retraining or removing a reader.

The SRC in conjunction with the Coordinating Center (CC) may design a formal reliability study of scoring. For example, a sample of previously read PSG studies will be assigned a new “dummy” identification number and be assigned to the scorers for repeat scoring. Scoring of these studies will be integrated into the normal work flow to minimize their likelihood of being identified as a special study. Studies will be assigned to a different reader to define inter-reader reliability. Studies will be also assigned to the same reader at defined time periods to define intra-reader reliability.

Site visits, coordinated by the CC, will occur as directed by the Steering Committee.

## **5. Data Processing**

### **5.1. Study Receipt**

Upon receipt of studies at the Reading Center via FTP, all studies will be copied to the Incoming folder for processing.

The database Study Receipt form will be completed, including the following information: Participant ID, Acrostic, Study Date, date received, Unit ID, Technician ID, and Site Number. If there is a discrepancy between the data contained the Signal Verification Form and the Compumedics Sleep Study recorded file, an e-mail will be sent to the Site Coordinator requesting clarification. If any site is noted to have a significant number of discrepancies in the data submitted, the Coordinator at the site will be contacted by the SRC to request they identify source and report action taken to correct. The Signal Verification (SV) Form and Sleep Study Evaluation (SE) form for studies that have been evaluated at the site and determined to be Failed will be sent to the SRC via FTP. This data will also be entered into the Receipts table database when received, indicating study was Not Sent and coded with a reason for the failure.

### **5.2. Offline Automatic Analysis**

This Compumedics program must be run prior to review of studies and final scoring to allow visualization of signals, graphic screens, and prepare templates for report calculations. Automatic sleep staging and respiratory scores are generated during the process. These data will not be used as final scores.

### **5.3. Preliminary Review**

After offline analysis of the record, the CP/QCM or designated Scorer will then review each study to determine if overall quality is sufficient to be scored (passed/failed), and identify any potential medical alerts (defined as extreme heart rate patterns or potential a-Fib). In addition, the CP/QCM will note any signal quality issues, possible monitor malfunctions, and recommendations for electrode replacements in the Comment section in the database Receipt form.

Minimal criteria for study acceptability: The record must contain at least 3 hours of scorable EEG, oximetry and respiratory data (either airflow, cannula, thoracic or abdomen) between (edited) lights off and lights on (Total Time in Bed). Recorded time after final awakening will not contribute to this time.



## 5.4. Feedback of Data to the Sites

After preliminary review by the CP/QCM is completed, the pass/fail status of the record as entered into the database is sent to the appropriate designated site personnel. On a weekly basis the following reports are e-mailed in an encrypted file to the site coordinator and other designated staff personnel as requested by the site:

Record of Receipts - Lists Participant ID, Study Date, Date Received at SRC, Unit ID, Tech ID, and Pass/Fail Status.

Study Quality Report - Contains Participant ID, Study Date, Tech ID, Pass/Fail status and Comments from the CP regarding study quality and/or reasons for failure.

Participant Feedback Sleep Report

The site coordinator is to verify that all information on the Record of Receipts is accurate and notify the SRC of any changes or corrections to be made. The Preliminary Study Quality Report should be made available to the field site technicians and quality issues reviewed and discussed.

Failed study files are kept for troubleshooting exercises and review, but are not archived with passing studies.

## 5.5. Assignment of Studies to Scorers

Potential Medical Alerts - Studies identified as potential medical alerts/urgent referrals will be triaged for immediate full scoring (within 48 hours of assignment to scorer). Once fully scored and determined to meet criteria for Medical Alerts (time in desaturation of <85% for >10% TST, or average heart rate > 150 BPM or <30 BPM for 2 minutes, atrial fibrillation; or runs of ventricular tachycardia), a physician investigator will be asked to review the study. If the medical alert is ascertained, it will be logged into a Medical Alert Log and the site will receive an e-mail notification with the Participant Feedback Sleep Report. Site is expected to acknowledge receipt within 48 hours. All remaining studies are scored based on date received.

## 5.6. Quality Grades (QS Form; Sleep Quality Form)

The quality of each signal and overall study quality will be assessed at the time of scoring of the record. The Scorer will code each channel of information according to the duration of: i) scorable signals; ii) duration of artifact free signals during sleep, and iii) an overall QA grade to each study. The total duration of the study (from the edited lights off to the lights on) and the total duration of sleep will also be indicated. Scoring notes regarding staging, event identification, outliers, and specific physiologic signal issues are also recorded on the QS form. (See Section 7.0 for a more detailed description of criteria for grades and scoring notes. Appendix B contains a sample Receipt/QS Form.) All data contained in the QS form (quality grades and scoring notes) will be entered in the QS table database.

## 5.7. Scored Sleep Data

After full scoring, the scorer will generate:

- Participant Feedback Report (rtf format – See Appendix C for sample report), contains summary sleep data, including the AHI (the number of apneas and hypopneas per hour of the sleep associated with a desaturation  $\geq 3\%$ ), a summary of the desaturation profile, time in REM/Non-REM sleep, stage distributions, and the arousal index. The report can be used in the Participant Feedback Letters, and in communications with local physicians.
- SAS report containing >800 variables.
- Completed QS form containing all quality grades and scoring notes.

The Sleep Data Summary Report and QS Report are e-mailed to each site on Monday or Tuesday following the week scored (generally within 2 weeks of receipt of the SRC, except for studies which are triaged as possible Medical Alerts, which will be sent within 48 hours of being scored).

## 5.8. Archival of Data

After QS data has been entered and weekly reports are sent to sites, the complete study folder containing the raw data file, scored files, sleep study report, and the SAS report is placed in appropriate designated folders on the server. These folders are backed up every 24 hours. The summary scored data (>800 SHHS variables) are output as individual .txt files. After outlier checks, studies are imported on a weekly basis into a SAS file. This file is placed in a designated RC Sleep folder on the MESA Coordinating Center server on a weekly basis.

## 5.9. Processing of Sleep Records

The Compumedics Profusion 3 software system will be used to process all the records. To most efficiently utilize the software options and to maximize consistency in viewing and approaching each study, each reading computer needs to be configured comparably and the following procedures followed. Details of all processing and Montage settings used are contained in a separate procedure manual for scorers.

**Running Offline analysis-** This “pre-processes” with default settings allow subsequent epoch by epoch scoring and report generation.

Offline Analysis sets parameters for the following:

- Respiratory (Minimum Apnea/Hypopnea duration and amplitude)
- PLM/Limb movement (Minimum/Maximum duration, minimum amplitude LM, and Minimum/Maximum intervals between LM for PLM episode)
- Off-line Summary (Parameters and filters for Sleep, Respiratory, Arousals, and DHR)

## The screen settings for scoring:

Trace Layout Properties

Trace pane 1

Timebase : 30 sec/page Background Colour: [White] Grid Colour: [Grey]

Grid Markers  Epoch Markers  Apply Changes to Data Type

Cursor Colour: [Orange] Epoch Colour: [Green]

Name	Input	Ref	Colour	Zoom	Size	Grids	Polarity	Upper	Lower	HP Filter	LP Filter	Notch	Clip	Auto Scale	Numeric	Offset
E1	EOG-L	-	[Purple]	32.00	1.0	0.00	Negativ	N/A	N/A	0.30 Hz	35 Hz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E2	EOG-R	-	[Purple]	32.00	1.0	0.00	Negativ	N/A	N/A	0.30 Hz	35 Hz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chin	EMG	-	[Green]	50.00	1.0	0.00	Negativ	N/A	N/A	10.0 Hz	70 Hz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fz-Cz	EEG1	-	[Black]	32.00	1.0	0.00	Negativ	N/A	N/A	0.30 Hz	35 Hz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cz-Oz	EEG2	-	[Black]	32.00	1.0	0.00	Negativ	N/A	N/A	0.30 Hz	35 Hz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C4-M1	EEG3	-	[Black]	80.00	1.0	0.00	Negativ	N/A	N/A	0.30 Hz	35 Hz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EKG	EKG	-	[Red]	4.00	1.0	0.00	Positive	N/A	N/A	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DHR	DHR	-	[Red]	N/A	0.4	0.00	N/A	120.0	30.0	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HR	HR	-	[Red]	N/A	0.4	0.00	N/A	120.0	30.0	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pleth	Pleth	-	[Red]	32.00	1.0	0.00	Positive	N/A	N/A	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		-	[Red]	N/A	0.4	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trace pane 2

Trace pane 3

Trace Layout Properties

Trace pane 1

Trace pane 2

Timebase : 5 min/page Background Colour: [White] Grid Colour: [Grey]

Grid Markers  Epoch Markers  Apply Changes to Data Type

Cursor Colour: [Orange] Epoch Colour: [Green]

Name	Input	Ref	Colour	Zoom	Size	Grids	Polarity	Upper	Lower	HP Filter	LP Filter	Notch	Clip	Auto Scale	Numeric	Offset
LRleg	Leg	-	[Green]	16.00	1.0	0.00	Positive	N/A	N/A	10.0 Hz	70 Hz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CannulaSno	Snore	-	[Black]	N/A	0.4	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Them	Them	-	[Blue]	N/A	1.0	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.05 Hz	15 Hz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CannulaFlow	Flow	-	[Red]	N/A	1.0	0.00	N/A	-1.875	2.125	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chest	Thor	-	[Blue]	160.00	1.0	0.00	Positive	N/A	N/A	0.05 Hz	5.0 Hz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Abdo	Abdo	-	[Blue]	40.00	1.0	0.00	Positive	N/A	N/A	0.05 Hz	5.0 Hz	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SpO2	SpO2	-	[Red]	N/A	1.5	0.00	N/A	100.0	85.0	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pleth	Pleth	-	[Red]	16.00	1.0	0.00	Positive	N/A	N/A	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OxSTAT	OxStatus	-	[Black]	N/A	1.8	Off	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Position	Pos	-	[Blue]	N/A	2.4	Off	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		-	[Red]	N/A	0.5	0.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	Off	Off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Trace pane 3

## 6. SCORING PROCEDURES

### 6.1. Overview of Scoring

Scorers will review the record using a computer monitor in two passes. First, computer generated scoring of respiratory events during the “offline” processing will be deleted. Then during the first pass, sleep stages and arousals will be marked manually on a (30 s. time base) epoch by epoch basis. During the second pass, respiratory signals will be displayed (2 or 5 min. time base), respiratory events will be manually marked, and oxygen saturation data edited.

During manual scoring, the following are primary “events” that are identified:

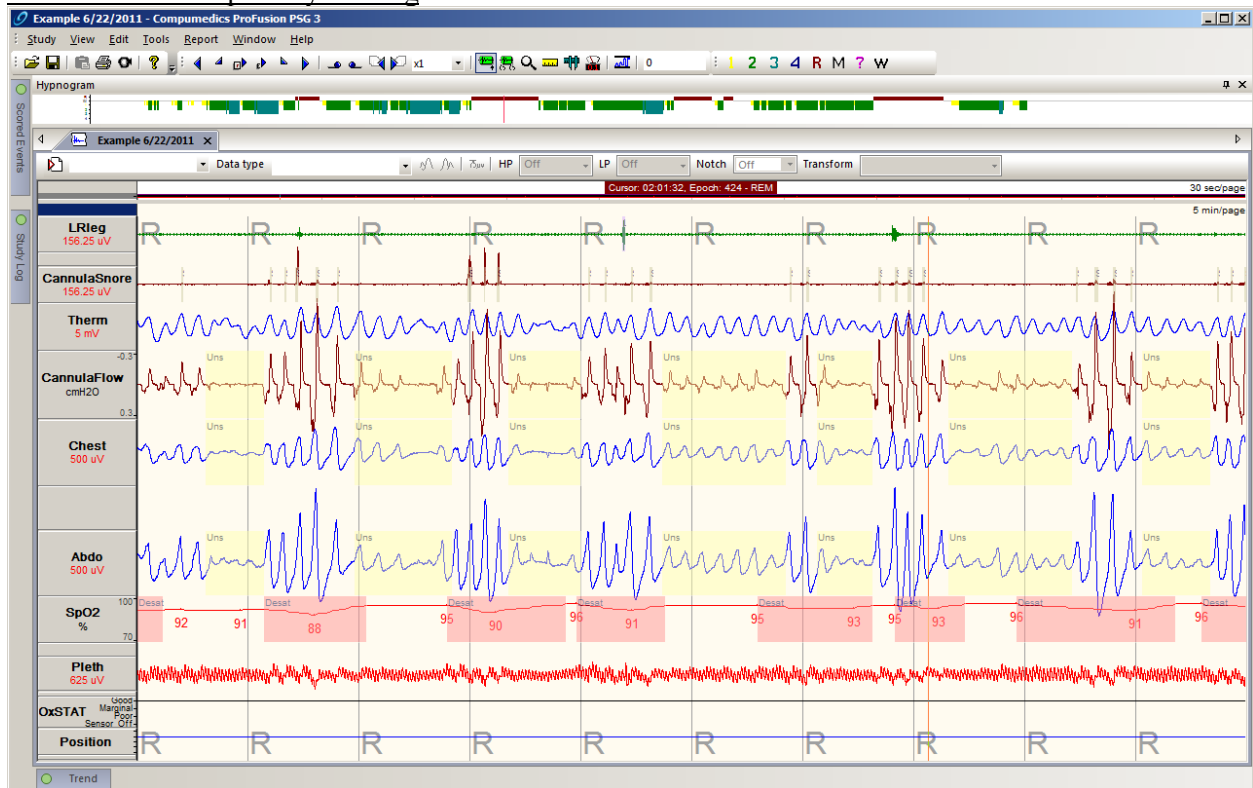
#### First Pass: Sleep stages and Arousals



Sleep stages will be identified for each 30 second epoch using American Academy of Sleep Medicine scoring criteria (The Atlas Task Force, Technical and Digital Specifications: Visual Rules.)

Arousals will be characterized by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine criteria (The Atlas Task Force, EEG Arousals: Scoring Rules and Examples. Sleep 1992: 15:173-84).

## Second Pass: Respiratory Scoring



Obstructive Apneas will be identified if the amplitude (peak to trough) of the airflow signal is flat or nearly flat. This is noted when amplitude of airflow decreases below at least 90% of the amplitude of “baseline” breathing, i.e. to  $\leq 10\%$  of the baseline for 90% of the event duration, (identified during a period of regular breathing with stable oxygen levels), and if this change lasts for  $\geq 10$  s. When thermistry is missing or uninterpretable, the nasal pressure signal (cannula flow) can be used as an alternative signal for scoring Obstructive Apnea.

AASM Alternative Hypopneas (50% reduction of amplitude). Will be identified if  $\geq 50\%$  reduction of amplitude is visualized on both belts (thoracic and abdominal). Alternatively, an AASM Alternative hypopnea may be marked if a clear  $> 50\%$  reduction is seen on a good nasal pressure signal. Specifically, when amplitude changes are seen only in the nasal pressure with little or no changes in the belt channels, the event will not be marked. These events are marked independent of whether any associated desaturation is linked with the event.

AASM Recommended Hypopneas (30% reduction of amplitude) will be identified if the amplitude of the thorax and abdomen signals decrease by at least (approximately) 30% of the amplitude of “baseline”, i.e. to  $\leq 70\%$  of baseline, (identified during a period of regular breathing with stable oxygen levels), if this change lasts for  $\geq 10$  s, and if the event does not meet the criteria for the AASM Alternative hypopnea. These events are marked independent of whether any associated desaturation is linked with the event.

Central Apneas will be noted if no displacement is noted on both chest and the abdominal inductance channels. Otherwise, events will be noted as “obstructive”. Central events cannot be designated if either or both band data are missing or uninterpretable.

Desaturation Events: Profusion software has the ability to independently score desaturation events from the oxygen saturation channel.

Computer analysis will link data from varying channels to identify desaturation levels, sleep summary data, and various Apnea Hypopnea Indices (AHIs). The following describe how these data are used:

The desaturation associated with any respiratory event will be based on the nadir desaturation reached within a user defined amount of the time (usually within 30 to 45 sec) of the end of the event. The magnitude of the desaturation for an event is the difference between the greatest saturation level observed during the event and this minimum. The scorer will manually check events to assure that the appropriate desaturation is identified and modify the desaturation event on the saO2 channel as appropriate so correct desaturation is aligned with respiratory event.

An arousal will be associated with a respiratory event if the arousal begins less than 5.0 seconds after the end of the event (i.e.: 0-4.9 seconds).

AHI (Apnea Hypopnea Index) is defined as the number of respiratory events (apneas and hypopneas) per hour of the sleep. Events will be included in different indices according to level of associated desaturation and/or arousal:

- All events (regardless of desaturation or arousal)
- Summary AHI values, based on events associated with  $\geq 2\%$ ,  $\geq 3\%$ ,  $\geq 4\%$ , and  $\geq 5\%$  desaturation levels.
- Summary AHI values based on events associated with  $> 2\%$ ,  $3\%$ ,  $4\%$ , and  $5\%$  desaturation levels or associated arousal.
- Summary AHI values based on events associated with arousal regardless of desaturation.
- Summary events only based on events meeting obstructive apnea and AASM hypopnea criteria.

Time in apnea or hypopnea:

- Percent sleep time in apnea (obstructive or central, with at least a 3% desaturation +/- arousal).
- Percent sleep time in hypopnea (with at least a 3% desaturation +/- arousal).

Oxygen Desaturation Profile:

- Percent sleep time in desaturation ( $<95\%$ ,  $<90\%$ ,  $<85\%$ ,  $<80\%$ ,  $<75\%$ ).
- Number of desaturations/hour of sleep (unlinked with respiratory events) of 2%, 3%, 4%, 5%.
- Average of oxygen desaturation nadirs linked to each respiratory event
- Average of oxygen desaturation nadirs noted from independent desaturation event markings.

Sleep Architecture:

- Time and percent of sleep time in each sleep stage (combine Stages N3 and N4).
- Arousal index.
- Number/hour of upward stage (from deeper to lighter) shifts; wake shifts.
- Sleep efficiency.(sleep time/time in bed – lights off to end of study)
- Sleep latency (lights off to sleep onset); REM latency I (defined as time from onset of sleep to first REM).

Heart Rate data:

- Maximum, minimum and mean heart rate noted during sleep, associated with respiratory events and associated with the arousals (in REM and Non-REM separately).

Following manual scoring of the computer record, the scorer also completes the QS Form to indicate whether unusual patterns describing breathing or EEG are noted or if problems were encountered during the scoring process that could reduce the reliability of the scored data. These include:

- Abnormal Awake EEG
- Physiologic Alpha intrusion
- Periodicity
- Periodic large breaths
- Sleep staging/arousal unreliable
- Apneas vs. hypopneas unreliable
- Flow limitation >10% of sleep time
- Leg movements at least 75% present in 10 minutes minimum wake time
- Loss of Signals/Data resulting in incomplete capture of sleep period

## Summary of Scoring Process

Each study will be manually scored in the two passes:

During the first pass:

- Verify Lights Off, Lights On, Sleep Onset and End of Sleep are set correctly.
- The EEG, EMG, ECG and EOG signals from each study will be reviewed on an epoch by epoch (30 sec. screen) basis. Each epoch will be assigned a sleep stage. Periods of EEG change that meet the criteria for arousal will be marked.

During second pass:

- Respiratory data (airflow/cannula/snore/abdominal/chest/saturation) and leg signal will be reviewed on 5 minute pages. The saturation channel will be edited for artifact and respiratory events will be marked manually according to the rules stated below.

Finally, the following will be done:

- The QS Form will be completed, indicating unusual patterns, reliability problems, and signal/study QA grades.
- The outlier program will be run or the long report will be reviewed to identify implausible values.
- Participant Feedback Sleep Reports will be generated.
- The raw and scored files and summary reports will be saved to the appropriate scored sections on the Network

## 6.2. Scoring Rules

*Locally introduced rules, based on discussions among the SRC staff and outside consultations are indicated by an (\*).*

### Scoring sleep stages and Arousals

Scoring will be based on “The AASM Manual for the Scoring of Sleep and Associated Events: Rules, Terminology and Technical Specifications, 1<sup>st</sup> ed.: Westchester, Illinois; American Academy of Sleep Medicine, 2007. IberC, Ancoli-Israel S., Chesson A, and Quan SF.

#### 6.2.1 Rules for assigning epoch-specific sleep score:

Epoch-by-epoch approach: The polygraph record is divided into consecutive segments of equal size (30 s., each termed an “epoch”). Each epoch has assigned a single sleep stage score. The epoch duration is maintained for the duration of the recording.

- When more than one stage is present in an epoch, that epoch is assigned a single stage score reflecting the stage that occupied the greatest portion of the epoch.
- When two stages of sleep are evenly distributed on the epoch, and one of these stages was the same stage as in the preceding epoch, then that epoch will be assigned the same sleep stage as the preceding epoch (\*).
- Portions of two epochs may not be combined to create a new epoch.
- When an arousal of <15 sec. occurs within an epoch, the time “in arousal” is not counted when determining the predominant sleep stage time in that epoch.

Terminology for stages of sleep:

Stage W (Wakefulness)

Stage N1 (NREM1)

Stage N2 (NREM2)

Stage N3 (NREM 3) –Represents slow wave sleep and replaced R&K nomenclature of stages 3& 4

Stage R (REM)

## 6.2.2 Sleep onset

Sleep onset is defined by the start of the first epoch scored as any stage other than stage W.

## 6.2.3 EEG arousal

Scoring arousals is based on “A Preliminary Report from the Sleep Disorders Atlas Task Force of the American Sleep Disorders Association” Sleep, vol. 15, no 2, 1992. (ASDA criteria)

The scoring of EEG arousals is independent from the scoring of sleep stages (i.e. an arousal can be scored in an epoch of recording which would be classified as wake by AASM criteria). An arousal can proceed to the wake stage (by AASM criteria) or can be followed by a return to sleep.

### Definition of Arousal:

An EEG arousal is an abrupt shift in EEG frequency, which may include alpha and/or theta waves and/or delta waves and/or frequencies greater than 16 Hz lasting at least 3 s., and starting after at least 10 continuous seconds of sleep.

Artifacts, K complexes and delta waves are included in meeting the 3 s. duration criteria only when they occur within the EEG frequency shift (change in frequency must be visible before these waveforms). A "K" complex or spindle occurring immediately prior to the EEG shift or following is not included in the arousal duration.

Parts of the EEG totally obscured by EMG artifact are considered an arousal if the change in background EEG in addition to the area obscured by EMG is at least  $\geq 3$  sec.



Alpha activity of less than 3 s. duration in Non-REM sleep at a rate greater than one burst per 10 s. is not scored as an EEG arousal. Three seconds of alpha sleep is not scored as an arousal unless a 10 s. episode of alpha free sleep precedes this.

If both central EEGs are equivalent and interpretable, the arousal (EEG frequency shift) must be observed in both channels. If observed in only one of two equivalent channels, the change in EEG is assumed to be artifact and not an arousal.

Arousals lasting > 15 s. and containing awake EEG within an epoch cause the epoch to be classified as AWAKE.

***TIPS for Arousals Generally:***

- When unsure if change in background EEG represents an abrupt change, look at a 60 sec window and note if there is a discrete change from background EEG.
- Note whether changes were evident on both EEG channels.
- Be careful to distinguish an increase in EEG frequency from EMG artifact (esp. in delta sleep).
- Isolated bursts of delta activity or sawtooth-like waves do not constitute an arousal. In contrast, slow waves intermixed with fast activity that differs from background do qualify as arousals.
- Occasionally, EEG acceleration is superimposed on slower waves. The slowing may be an artifact secondary to movement or burst of delta waves. If there is evidence of embedded EEG acceleration for  $\geq 3$  sec., mark as an arousal.

Arousals in REM

In stage REM, an EEG frequency shift must be accompanied by a simultaneous increase in amplitude of the chin EMG (lasting over 1.0 s.). An arousal starts when a definite change in background EEG is visualized. The increase in the chin EMG can occur anytime during the arousal (can be at the end) and is not a marker for the beginning of the arousal. However, increased EMG activity without a change in background EEG does not constitute an arousal.

***TIPS for Arousals in REM:***

- If the level of REM EMG appears to be fluctuating, then the increase in EMG in the area of a putative arousal needs to be more than the background level of fluctuations, to identify this as a REM arousal.
- A long period of alpha activity before an EMG increase may mark the beginning of the arousal if the alpha activity represents the change in the background pattern.

***Potential Problems:***

Some studies with high AHIs have many arousals that may appear to last > 15 sec. within given epochs. If all such epochs were classified as AWAKE, then the respiratory events would not be included in the AHI and the AHI will be underestimated. When faced with this situation, the scorer may attempt to keep the duration of the arousal to as short as feasible (e.g., corresponding to the length of the waking EEG in that epoch.) This will maximize the number of epochs containing arousals that are captured as "sleep".

## **6.2.4 Rules for assigning sleep stages when arousal**

## is present in the epoch

The following rules were established to maximize the amount of sleep identified and thus the number of respiratory events recorded (\*):

Brief arousals (e.g. arousals  $\leq 15$ s. long) may require a change in sleep stage. The epoch is staged according to the sleep stage in the remaining parts of the epoch (not including the arousal). After an arousal change to stage N1 until a K complex unassociated with an arousal or a sleep spindle occurs.

If an arousal or an area of increased EMG causing artifact in the EEG channels is followed by Stage wake (W), then the arousal is considered part of the record scored as a stage Wake. If this part is  $> 15$  s. long, then epoch is scored as a Stage Wake.

In Deep Sleep (unequivocal Stage 3/4), when fast frequency waves are visualized as “riding” on the top of the delta waves, and there are no frequencies characteristic of Stage Wake (\*):

- If there is any reason to suspect that the fast frequencies are result of artifact (like a sudden increase in EMG bleeding into EEG), an arousal is not scored.
- When the fast frequencies are not the result of artifact, an arousal is scored. Deep Sleep is scored when delta waves persist despite the faster frequencies riding on top, independent of the length of the arousal.

*Note for Delta Sleep: When an arousal includes bursts of Delta waves: these waves are not used for meeting Deep Sleep criteria (e.g. Deep Sleep is scored only if there is  $\geq 20$  % of the epoch covered by delta waves outside of the arousal).*

### 6.2.5 Episodic events in sleep

**Sleep spindles:** clearly visible, rhythmic bursts of activity 11-16 Hz, duration at least 0.5 s. (one should be able to count 6 or 7 distinctive waves within a half-second period); the amplitude variability appears sinusoidal.

Sleep spindle activity occurs in adults with a frequency of about three to eight bursts per minute in Stage N2 sleep. These are absent in wakefulness and Stage N1. Spindles may be rarely observed in Stage R and N3. Spindle rate appears to be a fairly stable individual characteristic. In the elderly and in individuals with various medical conditions, sleep spindles tend to lose their classic morphology and may have a slightly slower frequency, lower amplitude, and shorter duration.

**Medication effects** can introduce beta range activity that may be confused with spindles.

Tips to alert to the presence of drug effects mimicking spindles are two or more of the following:

- Increased beta activity (spindle like) in well defined REM sleep and wakefulness.
  - Increased spindle duration (often  $> 1$  sec.)
  - Increased frequency of spindles per epoch ( $>5$ /epoch).
  - Spindle like activity with amplitude variability that is NOT sinusoidal.
  - Fast frequencies (often  $> 13$  Hz).
- 
- When identifying atypical “spindle activity,” review previous epochs to ascertain if stage was properly scored.

- When atypical spindle like activity is observed, then such activity cannot be used to distinguish Stage N2 from other sleep stages. This may lead to some underscoring of Stage N2 from N1.

**K-complex:** EEG waveforms having a well-outlined negative sharp wave, immediately followed by a positive component. Total duration of the K complex should exceed 0.5 s. Waves of 12-14 Hz (sleep spindles) may or may not constitute part of K complex. K complexes can occur as a response to sudden auditory stimuli. K complexes may be reflected on the EOG channels. When in doubt about whether a particular polyphasic wave is a “true” K complex, record is scanned for clear Stage N2 sleep. Questionable K complexes are only designated as K complexes if their morphology closely matches those seen in unequivocal Stage N2 sleep. For an arousal to be associated with a K complex, it must commence no more than 1 second after the termination of the K complex.

**Hypersynchrony:** bursts of high voltage delta (< 4 Hz) or theta (4 - 7 Hz) waves lasting 2-3 s. with a comb-like morphology with a positive polarity (points up going). Hypersynchrony is not considered an arousal. May need to be distinguished from seizure discharges. In children, this actually may be exaggerated. It is relatively more common during the transition from wakefulness to sleep.

**Seizures:** This is manifest by an abrupt change in background EEG. This usually requires a wider sampling of areas of the brain than is provided with our montage. Two patterns are commonly seen: 1) High voltage, rhythmic activity in the 2-6 Hz range, or 2) Diffuse sustained beta activity. A seizure is often accompanied by prominent muscle artifact. A seizure is usually followed by low to moderate voltage irregular slowing. On the 10 s. screen, characteristic ‘spikes and wave’ pattern may be seen. If a possible seizure is identified, a physician investigator will be immediately asked to review the study.

## 6.2.6 Rules for assigning sleep stages

EEG frequencies are divided into following bandwidths:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta \text{ (beta)} &> 13 \text{ Hz} \\ 13 \text{ Hz} &\geq \alpha \text{ (alpha)} \geq 8 \text{ Hz} \\ 8 \text{ Hz} &> \theta \text{ (theta)} \geq 4 \text{ Hz} \\ 4 \text{ Hz} &> \delta \text{ (delta)} \end{aligned}$$

An alpha wave is any wave that has the frequency in alpha range.

Alpha rhythm (also known as posterior background rhythm) has the following characteristics:

1. Is seen in the relaxed waking state with the eyes closed.
2. Attenuates with eye opening, anxiety or mental activity such as mental calculations
3. Slows in drowsiness (occasionally <8 Hz) and then disappears in sleep.  
The slowing may be so brief as to be unnoticed.
4. Generated by occipital lobes and has a broad reflection to temporal and mastoid areas.

An illustration of the differences in alpha with open and closed eyes is shown in

## **Stage W - Waking State**

Stage W, when eyes are open, is defined by low voltage, mixed frequency EEG in the alpha and beta ranges ( $> 8$  Hz). When eyes are closed, wake is defined by the presence of the alpha rhythm. There is usually (but not necessarily), a relatively high tonic EMG. Waking shows frequent eye movements and eye blinks. Some subjects may have virtually continuous alpha activity, others may show little or no alpha activity in the waking record.

### Rules

- A. Score epochs as stage W when more than 50% of the epoch has alpha rhythm over the occipital region.
- B. Score epochs without visually discernable alpha rhythm as stage W if any of the following are present:
  - 1) Eye blinks at a frequency of 0.5-2 Hz
  - 2) Reading eye movements
  - 3) Irregular conjugate rapid eye movements associated with normal or high chin muscle tone.

## **Stage 1 sleep N1**

Stage N1 sleep occurs most often in transition from wakefulness to other sleep stages.

Stage N1 is defined by a background of relatively low voltage, mixed frequency EEG activity with noticeable activity in the 2-7 Hz range with no clearly defined K complexes or sleep spindles in the first half of the epoch. Faster frequencies are mostly lower voltage (amplitude). High voltage (50-75  $\mu$ V) 4-7 Hz activity tends to occur in irregularly spaced bursts mostly during the later portions of the stage. There are slow eye movements, each of several seconds duration, usually most prominent during early portions of the stage. No rapid eye movements or blinks are present. During the latter portion of the stage, vertex sharp waves, occasionally as high as 200  $\mu$ V, are often seen in conjunction with high amplitude 4-7 Hz activity. The amount of alpha activity combined with low voltage activity comprises less than half of the epoch. Finally, the tonic EMG level may be lower than observed during relaxed wakefulness.

Traces of low voltage activity at 12-14 Hz may begin to appear as the transition to Stage N2 approaches, but this activity is not defined as a sleep spindles until the rhythmic bursts are clearly visible for at least 0.5 s.

### Rules

- A. In subjects who generate alpha rhythm, score stage N1 if alpha rhythm is attenuated and replaced by low amplitude, mixed frequency activity for more than 50% of the epoch.
- B. In subjects who do not generate alpha rhythm, score stage N1 commencing with the earliest of any of the following phenomena:
  - i. Activity in range of 4-7 Hz with slowing of background frequencies by  $\geq 1$  Hz from those of stage W
  - ii. Vertex sharp waves
  - iii. Slow eye movements

## **Stage 2 sleep N2**

To start Stage N2, K or spindle must be on the first half of the epoch, or majority of the epoch must be Stage N2 to change from Stage N1 to Stage N2. Stage N2 is defined by a background similar to Stage N1 sleep with the presence of the K complexes and/or sleep spindles. It is impossible to define the difference between Stage N1 and Stage N2 sleep on the basis of background activity alone. Bursts of other polymorphic high voltage slow waves, which do not have the precise morphology of K complex, are also frequently seen. Delta waves: high amplitude ( $> 75 \mu\text{V}$ ), slow ( $\leq 4 \text{ Hz}$ ; duration 0.5 s. and longer) activity occupy no more than 19% of the epoch. At the beginning of the Stage N2, slow eye movements may infrequently, and only briefly, persist after the appearance of sleep spindles and K complexes.

K complexes may be imbedded within an arousal and nonetheless constitute evidence of Stage N2.

#### Rules

A. The following rule defines the start of a period of stage N2 sleep:

1) Begin scoring stage N2 (in absence of criteria for N3) if one or both of the following occur during the first half of that epoch or the last half of the previous epoch:

- a. One or more K complexes unassociated with arousals
- b. One or more trains of sleep spindles

Note: Continue to score stage N1 for epochs with arousal-associated K complexes but no spontaneous K complexes or sleep spindles.

B. The following rule defines continuation of a period of stage N2 sleep:

1) Continue to score epochs with low amplitude, mixed frequency EEG activity without K complexes or sleep spindles as stage N2 if they are preceded by a) K complexes unassociated with arousals or b) sleep spindles.

C. The following rule defines the end of a period of stage N2 sleep:

- 1) End stage N2 sleep when one of the following events occurs:
  - a) Transition to stage W
  - b) An arousal (change to stage N1 until a K complex unassociated with an arousal or asleep spindle occurs)
  - c) Transition to stage N3
  - d) Transition to stage R

### **Deep Sleep (N3)**

No attempt is made to distinguish Stage 3 from Stage 4 which are combined into a single category: Deep Sleep (N3).

Deep Sleep is scored when 20% or more of the epoch consists of delta waves which are  $\leq 2 \text{ Hz}$  (duration at least 0.5s but no more than 2 sec.) and have an amplitude greater than  $75 \mu\text{V}$ . The 20% criteria refers specifically to the time occupied by the high amplitude, slow waves, and does not include intervening waves of higher frequency and lower amplitude or K complexes. To fulfill the criteria for Deep Sleep, one should be able to find at least 5-6 high voltage delta waves in the 30 second sleep epoch. Delta waves embedded in increased frequency activity (an arousal) do not contribute to the calculation of time in delta sleep

Sleep spindles and K complexes may or may not be present in Deep Sleep. Eye movements do not occur in Deep Sleep, although the EOG may reflect the high voltage slow wave activity. The EMG is tonically active, although the tracing may achieve very low levels, indistinguishable from that of REM sleep.

*Note: In the Compumedics software Stages 2, 3/4 are assigned based on the amount of the “delta-H” waves. K complexes and all the waves from the delta range (< 2 Hz) are considered by the computer algorithm in the count of these waves. The computer based calculation of delta sleep can be used to help determine % of slow waves when there are K complexes or events or other artifact. When any ambiguity exists, the scorer must quantify the percentage of time delta waves occupy within the epoch. Any questionable areas should be re-measured, subtracting time occupied by K complexes and other waveforms.*

An attempt should be made to distinguish between spontaneous K complexes and delta waves, although this distinction is not always easy. When a K complex distinction is in doubt, comparison should be done with the K complex in unambiguous Stage 2.

### **Stage REM sleep (R)**

Stage R is defined by a background of relatively low voltage, mixed frequency EEG with accompanying episodes of REMs (Rapid Eye Movements). The EEG pattern resembles Stage 1, except that vertex sharp waves are not readily noticeable. Bursts of characteristic “sawtooth” waves may appear, appearing as notched waves in the theta range. Alpha activity is usually more prominent than in Stage N1 and its frequency is 1-2 Hz slower than the alpha rhythm in wakefulness. The EMG reaches its lowest levels (it cannot be higher than the level during the preceding stage). Phasic twitches and intermittent increases of EMG activity may be observed but intervening baseline must remain low. Phasic twitch (EMG) defined as: short (no longer than .10 sec) burst of EMG activity superimposed on suppressed muscle tone which physically manifests as a twitch (contraction) of a muscle or jerk of a limb. In Stage R such muscle contractions may be isolated or become repetitive, but they remain distinctive. Periods of the relatively low voltage, mixed frequency EEG and EMG at Stage R level but without eye movements may follow unambiguous Stage R and is considered Stage R unless criteria for a state change are met.

The EOG shows bursts of rapid eye movements; often the density of such bursts increase as sleep progresses. Thus, earlier Stage R episodes usually contain fewer REMs than later episodes.

Rarely delta waves may be observed in an epoch that is within a period of REM. If occurring within period of REM, a low EMG, continue to score as REM. Large sawtooth waves also may be confused with hypersynchrony.

*Note: Excessive beta activity may be observed in REM and should not be confused with spindles. Medications (benzodiazepine or barbiturate ingestion) may induce excessive beta activity in both REM and Non-REM sleep. This beta activity can mimic sleep spindles. Their frequencies often are faster than those seen with the true sleep spindles (see above Stage N2 sleep section for guidance on identifying spindles). Rarely, sleep spindles can be seen in REM in subjects with substantial sleep deprivation.*

### **Start of the Stage REM:**

At the start of Stage R, K complexes, sleep spindles and delta waves end, characteristic sawtooth waves can appear. EMG levels tend to be the lowest after eye movements begin. The fall in EMG may not coincide with the EEG changes.

- If the EMG drops before the last sleep spindle, K complex or delta wave: Score Stage REM from the point the last sleep spindle, K complex or delta wave was seen.
- Otherwise: Score Stage R from the point where EMG drops. The period of the record before the EMG drop is scored according to the rules for NREM sleep.

Periods of elevated sustained EMG during Stage R sleep:

When EMG is elevated above the REM level for longer than .5 sec, then this portion of the record is scored as a Non-REM sleep or WAKE. If phasic twitches or sawtooth waves are seen, but intervening EMG is low, the epoch remains REM.

Rules

A. Score stage R sleep in epochs with all the following phenomena:

- a. Low amplitude, mixed frequency EEG
- b. Low chin EMG tone
- c. Rapid eye movements
- d. Sawtooth waves [may be helpful when stage is in doubt, but not required for stage R]

B. The following rule defines the continuation of a period of stage R sleep:

Continue to score stage R sleep, even in the absence of rapid eye movements, for epochs following one or more epochs of stage R as defined in A above, if the EEG continues to show low amplitude, mixed frequency activity without non-arousal associated K complexes or sleep spindles and the chin EMG time remains low.

C. The following rule defines the end of a period of stage R sleep:

- 1) Stop scoring R sleep when one or more of the following occur:
  - a. There is a transition to stage W, N2, or N3
  - b. An increase in chin EMG tone above the level of R is seen and criteria for stage N1 are met
  - c. An arousal occurs followed by low amplitude, mixed frequency EEG and slow eye movements (score as stage N1; if no slow eye movements and chin EMG tone remains low, continue to score as stage R)
  - e. One or more non-arousal associated K complexes or sleep spindles are present in the first half of the epoch in the absence of rapid eye movements, even if chin EMG tone remains low (score as stage N2)

D. Score epochs at the transition between stage N2 and stage R as follows:

- 1) In between epochs of definite stage N2 and definite stage R, score an epoch with a distinct drop in chin EMG in the first half of the epoch to the level seen in stage R as stage R if all of the following are met, even in the absence of rapid eye movements:
  - a. Absence of non-arousal associated K complexes
  - b. Absence of sleep spindles
- 2) In between epochs of definite stage N2 and definite stage R, score an epoch with distinct drop in chin EMG in the first half of the epoch to the level seen in stage R as stage N2 if all of the following criteria are met:

- a. Presence of non-arousal associated K complexes or sleep spindles
- b. Absence of rapid eye movements

3) In between epochs of definite stage N2 with minimal chin EMG tone and definite stage R without further drop in chin EMG tone, score epochs as stage R if all of the following are met, even in the absence of rapid eye movements:

- a. Absence of non-arousal associated K complexes
- b. Absence of sleep spindles

### **WAKE-REM Transition:**

When one epoch or more of Stage Wake slows into a low voltage, mixed EEG pattern before REMs or sawtooth waves begin: Score Stage 1 until the EMG drops to REM level and Stage REM afterwards. (\*)

When Stage Wake (> 15s.) interrupts Stage REM (i.e., REM-> WAKE): (\*)

If the EEG background of the epochs between the intervening waking epoch and the appearance of REMs (eye movements) is ambiguous (i.e. the EEG background is compatible with either REM or Non-REM sleep), then

- Score as Stage 1 if the EMG is elevated
- Score as Stage REM when EMG is at the Stage REM level

However, if a sleep spindle or K-complex appears prior to the appearance of REMs, then the waking epochs are considered the end of the Stage REM

When arousals (< 15 sec) interrupt REM:

The occurrence of an arousal in REM does not automatically change sleep state. However, if the EMG increases after the arousal, REM is considered terminated by the arousal. The following epoch is non REM.

Note: Often a single K complex may be seen in REM after an arousal, with subsequent REMs. This per se does not change REM state. In particular, K complexes do not change REM state if intervening eye movements are seen following the K complex or the interval between the first K complex and the subsequent K complex is > 3 minutes. In contrast, a K-complex occurring after a period of wake interrupting REM does change the state (beginning with Stage 2 at the first K-complex, and Stage 1 between the end of wake and the next K-complex).

### **End of the Stage REM**

Stage REM is scored until a clear evidence of sleep stage change is visualized:

- Appearance of K complexes or sleep spindles without presence of eye movements or sawtooth waves between them, or at intervals of < 3 minutes.
- Transition to Stage Wake.
- Sustained, increased EMG.

When K complexes or unquestionable sleep spindles are seen in the Stage REM:



An isolated K complex may be seen in REM. When K complexes or unquestionable sleep spindles (as compared to Stage 2) are present in stage REM, then an interval between two K complexes or sleep spindles is scored as Stage 2 only if there are no REMs (eye movements) or sawtooth waves in this interval and it is less than 3 min. long. Otherwise the interval is scored as Stage REM.

#### Scoring REM when there are problems with REM related atonia or the EMG is difficult to interpret.

Identification of the Stage REM is may be difficult when there are prolonged bursts of elevated EMG seen during eye movements or the EMG increases with snoring. In such cases:

EMG increases clearly related to snoring (changing with breathing) may be ignored, as long as intervening EMG is low.

The portion of the record with unquestionable Stage REM should be reviewed to provide a visual reference of the characteristic Stage REM EEG pattern. Stage REM is scored when EEG pattern changes to the pattern characteristic for Stage REM regardless of the level of the EMG. When EEG is consistent with Stage REM, and there is no evidence of wake (blinking), no evidence of Stage 1 (vertex waves, slow rolling eye movements), or the presence of REMs, then score stage Stage REM from the last K complex, sleep spindles or delta wave. Distinguishing between Stage 1 and Stage REM is unreliable and noted as such on the PSG scoring notes form.

### **6.2.7 Scoring respiratory events**

Scorers will identify the following categories of discrete breathing events: obstructive apneas, central apneas, and AASM Recommended and Alternative hypopneas. Additionally, periodic breathing and periodic large breaths will be identified. No attempt will be made to distinguish mixed apneas from obstructive apneas. This decision was based on previous data that indicated mixed events cannot be reliably identified. Central hypopneas and increased upper airway resistance (RERAs) will not be identified because of controversies in the defining these events and the probable need to use invasive monitoring to identify these accurately.

**Obstructive Apneas** are identified when the amplitude (peak to trough) of the airflow signal decreases to a flat or almost flat signal (showing a 90% reduction of the amplitude of “baseline” breathing) if this change lasts for  $\geq 10$  s. *Baseline breathing* is defined as a period of regular breathing with stable oxygen levels.

**Hypopneas** are distinguished as AASM Recommended hypopneas or AASM Alternative hypopneas, as follows:

**AASM Alternative Hypopneas.** Will be identified if a 50% reduction is seen on both belts (thoracic and abdominal). Alternatively, an AASM Alternative hyponea may be marked if a clear  $> 50\%$  reduction is seen on a good nasal pressure signal. Specifically, when amplitude changes are seen only in the nasal pressure with little or no changes in the belt channels, the event will not be marked. These events are marked independent of whether any associated desaturation is linked with the event.

**AASM Recommended Hypopneas** will be identified if the amplitude of the belt channels decrease by at least (approximately) 30% of the amplitude of “baseline”, i.e. to  $\leq 70\%$  of baseline, (identified during a period of regular breathing with stable oxygen levels), if this change lasts for  $\geq 10$  s, and if

the event does not meet the criteria for the AASM Alternative hypopnea. Sometimes more subtle changes in breathing are observed (not clearly reduced by 30% or more from baseline).

Distinguishing Between Hypopneas and Apneas. This distinction only can be made for events in which airflow by thermistry is interpretable. (If airflow is uninterpretable, the event-based on inductance data is considered by default to be a hypopnea.). Apneas are marked if > 90% of the event duration shows absent or nearly absent airflow on the thermister channel (and this reduction is 90% of the amplitude of the surrounding breaths).

Variation in signal amplitude on airflow, thoracic and abdominal channels: In some studies, information appears qualitatively different from different channels. Scoring will be done from the thoracic, abdominal and nasal pressure channel that correlates the best with the changes in the oxygen saturation. If there are no changes in O<sub>2</sub> saturation, scoring will be done from the channel that shows the clearest amplitude variation. In cases where the thermister or nasal pressure varies from the inductance channels, and the inductance channels appear mostly artifact free, the inductance channels will be used for event identification and classification. For example, sometimes the airflow channels will suggest prolonged periods of “no flow”, but changes in inductance and oxygen saturation suggest that breathing is occurring. When in doubt, use data from the inductance and saturation channels to identify/classify events.

A **Central apnea** event is scored if NO displacement is noted on both chest and the abdominal inductance channels. Otherwise, events are noted as “obstructive.”

Distinguishing Between Central and Obstructive Events. ” Only events in which there is clear data from both the abdominal and chest signals can be distinguished as “central” or “obstructive”. (Events where one or both of these channels are missing or contain artifact are considered “obstructive.”).

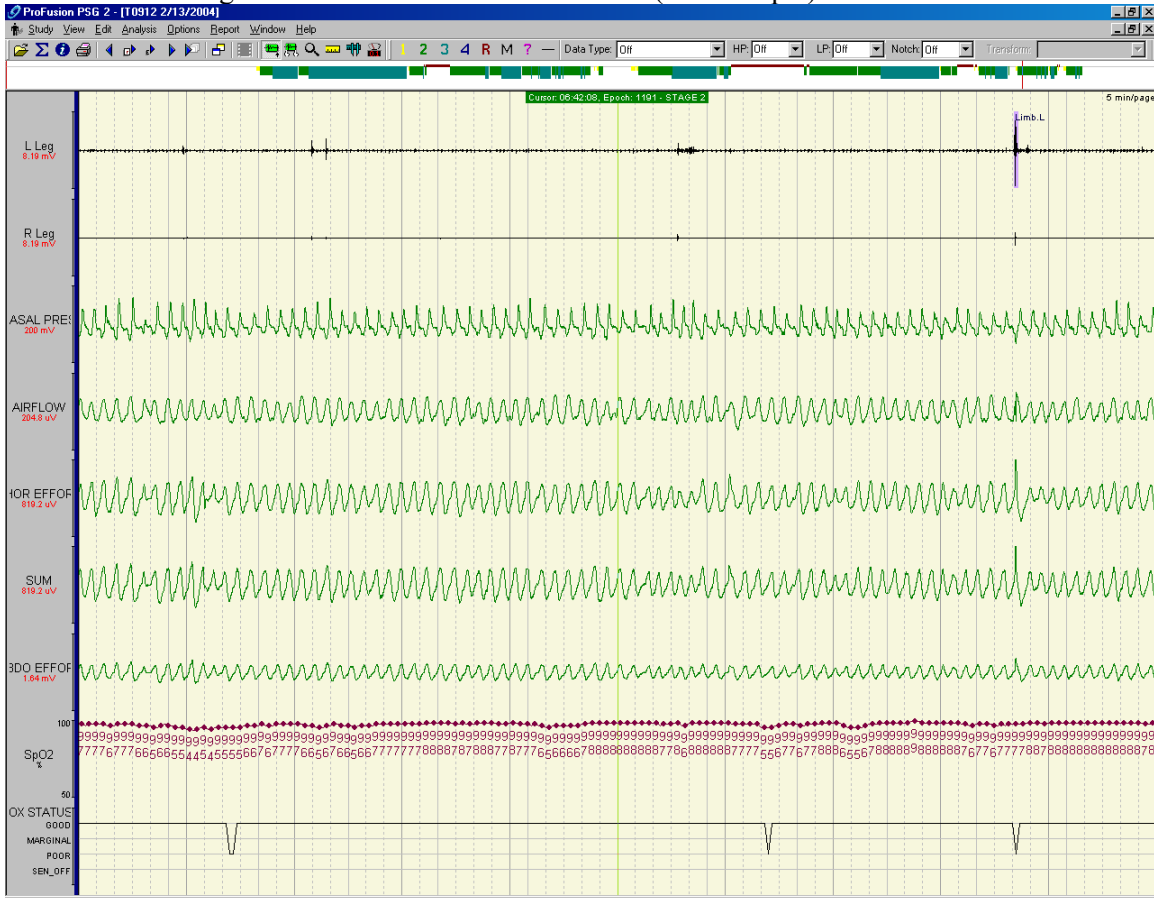
Often determining whether an event is central or obstructive is influenced by where the event is noted to begin and end. Sometimes, small efforts are seen following a completely flat area, followed by a large (“breaking”) breath. If a single small breath is seen at the beginning or the end of the period of flat signal, the event will be marked as “central.” (This recognizes that shortening the event slightly would make it a central event). However, if 2 or more consecutive small breaths are seen in the period in question, the event is marked as “obstructive.”

Determining whether an event is central or obstructive in areas of periodic breathing can be difficult because of uncertainties in deciding when to start and end such events. Often, these areas contain breaths that gradually increase and decrease, sometimes decreasing to an imperceptible level. Marking “longer” events in these areas would result in identifying “obstructive” events; “shorter” events are more likely to appear “central.” When it is unclear as to when to start an event, look for evidence of paradoxical breathing. Change in phase angle between thoracic and abdomen is an indicator of upper airway obstruction (such events will be designated as obstructive). When still unclear, the event duration will be marked using the airflow channel. Identify the areas where airflow stops and starts, then assess whether the period is also associated with effort on either channel/band. Then, the inductance channels will be visualized to decide whether during this period, any effort occurred. If any effort was visualized, the event will be considered “obstructive”, otherwise, “central.”

**Duration criteria:** The beginning of an Apnea/Hypopnea is marked at the end of the last “normal” breath; the end of the event is identified as the beginning of the first breath that exceeds the amplitude of the first reduced breath used to mark the beginning of the event. Duration is based on a “trough to trough” marking.

## Nasal Flow Limitation

Nasal flow limitation is derived from the nasal cannula signal. A normal flow signal will present a regular sinus rhythm and curve. Flow limitation may occur with increase upper airway resistance, not sufficient enough to cause discrete apneas and hypopneas. A regular sinus curve will transform into a signal that resembles a lower case ‘h’. (see example)



### 6.2.8 Dealing with ambiguous respiratory events:

If changes in amplitude are reduced by < 30%, but a  $\geq 10$  s. period of a clearly discernible reduction in the amplitude of respiratory signals from baseline is observed, then score events when:

- They occur as part of a series of events (that do meet the 30% reduction criteria).
- They are associated with desaturations of at least 2%.

Apneas/hypopneas immediately following large breaths or movements are not scored, unless they are part of the cycle (there are other respiratory events before and following). Such isolated events may be “sighs” or artifact. When such an event is noted after a movement/large breath and appears to “trigger” a series of events, the first respiratory event is not scored (unless apneas/hypopneas were scored *before* the movement/large breath).

Determining whether to score one long event or two short events (*i.e., after an initial decrease in amplitude of a breathing signal, there is some increase, but not to baseline, and then a fall again*): In these cases, the oxygen saturation channel will be checked to determine whether one or more than one event should be marked. If the event is punctuated by a clear decrease in oxygen saturation followed by a rise or a stabilization, and then a decrease again, two events are marked; otherwise if the event is characterized by one steady progressive fall in desaturation, than one event is scored.

Periods of hyperventilation followed by long periods of hypoventilation: If periods of hypoventilation have clearly visible beginnings and endings (*i.e., are “discrete”*) and are associated with at least 2% desaturation, score as hypopneas regardless of their length (they can last up to a few min.). (*Note: This is commonly observed in REM.*)

Deciding between an AASM 30% Recommended and AASM 50% Alternative hypopnea: The AASM Alternative hypopnea is designated as the event that most specifically reflects reduced amplitude ( $\geq 50\%$ ) as its central criterion. The primary signal used is the SUM channel, and if this is unavailable, then each of the band channels. However, also consistent with the growing appreciation for the “sensitivity” of data from the nasal pressure flow signal, we will also consider that data in this designation. However, many times, the nasal pressure signal may appear to be 50% reduced with very little evidence of reduction in other channels. When little change is seen in the band channels that otherwise appear to be functioning well, the event should not be scored as a 50% hypopnea. Also, if it unclear whether a 50% reduction in amplitude has been achieved, the event should be scored as a 30% hypopnea (assuring that all AASM 50% hypopneas are specific to this level of amplitude reduction.)

## 6.3 Scoring Periodic Leg Movements

### A. PLMS DEFINITION

**1."PLMS is a series of four or more consecutive movements lasting 0.5 to 10.0 seconds with an intermovement interval of 5 to 90 seconds."**(Coleman RM: Periodic movements in sleep (nocturnal myoclonus) and restless legs syndrome. In Guilleminault C (Ed) Sleeping and Waking Disorders: Indications and Techniques. Menio Park, CA, Addison-Wesley, 1982, pp265-295.)

2. Events that occur simultaneously or within one half second on both limb traces will be reported as one event.

3. Intervals between limb movement events are measured between the end of the previous limb movement event and the commencement of the next limb movement event.

4. Minimum peak to peak amplitude for a Limb Movement to be detected and marked. This applies when using EMG electrodes to measure limb movements.

5. Leg movements that are exclusively associated with the termination of respiratory events will not be considered in the PLMI. (Will be deleted if occurring in clusters.)

B. **Limitations of PLM Recordings.** Sensors used in MESA are piezo sensors that detect gross movement, not EMG that detect muscle activity. Therefore, we will apply the following modifications to the above rules:

- If any movement occurring in a characteristic PLM cluster approximates classical leg movements (LM), but lasts for 6-7 seconds, that movement will be considered as a LM.
- Analysis software will be adjusted to maximize automatic detection of leg movements. This will require adjusting the amplitude/gain settings to maximize correct identification of events.

### C. Scoring Leg Movements

- Run automatic LM and PLM analysis. Adjust gain (see above) to maximize correct automatic detection of leg movements that meet criteria.
- DO NOT DELETE ANY Limb movement automatically scored in AWAKE. (Will make subsequent editing easier).
- Delete LMs that exclusively occur at the end of specific respiratory events if these occur as part of clusters where failure to delete these will inflate the PLMI.
- Add any LMs not recognized by automatic scoring that meet criteria above.
- Enable the software's PLM episode detection after limb movement's manual editing (check the box with this name found it under Preferences),
- To have all qualifying LMs correctly associate as PLMs or PLM clusters, add one more limb movement. This will activate the software's automatic detection system to mark all LMs that occur in characteristic clusters as PLMs.
- Briefly check through the study if the system picked up all PLMs. (It sometimes is necessary to add or delete some of the automatic PLM association made by the scoring software.
- Delete all the PLMs in awake.
- **RULE for the studies, which have a mixture of PLMs and Respiratory events:**

Delete all clusters of 4 or more leg movements in row, if all of them clearly terminate a respiratory event. However, when a mixture of LMs are seen where some occur at the termination of a respiratory event and others appear unrelated temporally to a respiratory event, retain such events other than ones where a sequence of 3 occur associated with respiratory termination.

*Note: This PLM scoring rule differs from the AASM 2007 rule that states no LM is to be scored if it starts 0.5 sec before the start of a respiratory event, during the respiratory event, up to 0.5 sec after the end of the respiratory event.*

### **Identifying Abnormal Leg Movements in Wake (possibly associated with RLS):**

Note on the QS form (Q 23) if there is a pattern of periodic leg movements that occurs over a minimum period of least 10 min of quiet awake in the study, and occupy at least 75% of the awake time and is not movement artifact. *Hint: look especially carefully at studies with abundant PLM's in sleep.*

## **7. QS FORM - SCORING NOTES**

**See Appendix B for sample QS form**

The following are coded on the QS Form during the scoring of each study:

Lights out time, Sleep onset time, and Lights on time: Lights The Staged Lights must be manually set by the scorer and will be based on participant reported time to bed (from the Sleep Study Evaluation form). The time of lights out, sleep onset and lights on are recorded by the scorer on the QS form to assist in analysis of accuracy of reported time to bed and sleep latency.

Setting Lights ON/OFF: The default for the Staged Lights is OFF for the entire study. If sleep onset occurs before the “Participant Reported Time to Bed”, then the Staged Lights are marked ON from epoch one to the first epoch of sleep. If sleep onset occurs after the “Participant Reported time to Bed”, then the Staged Lights are marked ON from epoch one to this reported time. At the end of the study, the Staged Lights are marked ON after the last epoch of sleep until the last epoch of the recording.

Sleep latency will be considered reliable when onset of sleep occurs after the “Participant Reported Time to Bed”.

Position changing during study: This sensor will be considered to have been calibrated appropriately if changes in position are visualized during the recording.

### **QA Grade Review**

The QA grades of the signal and study are assigned at the time of scoring. It is recognized that the scorer, who spends a longer time with each study, may disagree with the preliminary pass/fail review of the Chief Polysomnologist. This will be re-reviewed with the Chief Polysomnologist and final determination made. Unusual signals, questions not addressed in manual of operations will be addressed at weekly scoring meeting

In addition to quality grades for each signal, the scorer will indicate if there are any ground or reference issues affecting EEG quality.

### **Studies with limited sleep data**

The following codes and guidelines are used to maximize the use of the respiratory data even when the sleep data are limited. These codes also provide a means for subsetting analyses according to the perceived levels of reliability of the scored data. Some studies will undergo only limited scoring (sleep-wake), as described below.

### **Limited Scoring:**

Study is scored sleep - wake only when the technical quality of the EEG does not allow distinction between sleep stages, but allows a differentiation between sleep and wake. The time considered sleep will be marked as Stage N2. No arousals will be scored for these studies. Respiratory events will be scored as usual. Scoring a study “sleep-wake” requires consensus with another scorer. Any study scored sleep - wake only will be given grade Fair regardless of the hours of scorable signal.

Arousals are not scored when the technical quality of the EEG does not allow differentiation of background changes in EEG from discrete periods of EEG acceleration.

### **Urgent Referrals/Medical Alerts:**

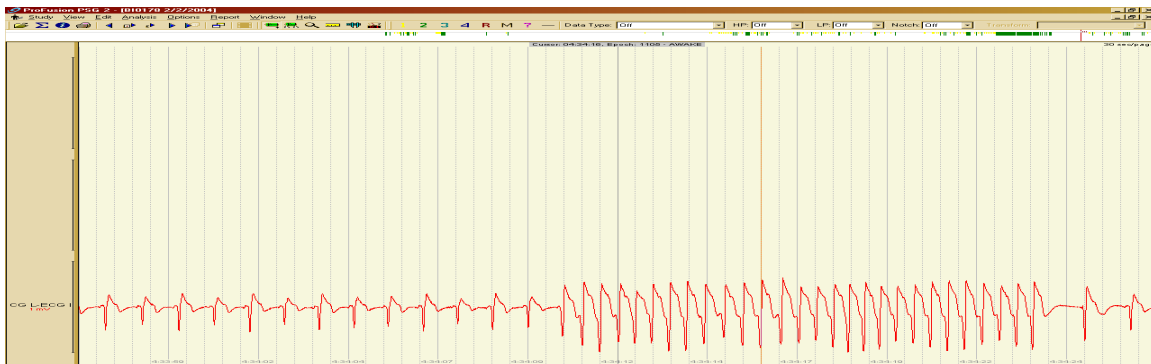
Will be checked "yes" if any criteria for urgent alert as listed below are met:

- Heart rate > 150 bpm for  $\geq 2$  min
- Heart rate < 30 bpm for  $\geq 2$  min.
- All Fib/flutter will be alerted as Potential Urgent regardless of any known diagnosis.
- Ventricular tachycardia (NSVT) 3-beat run observed
- 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> degree block
- Oxygen Saturation < 85% for >10% TST.

AHI > 50 will be considered an Abnormal Referral and does not require Urgent Processing.

### **Examples of heart rate issues requiring site notification:**

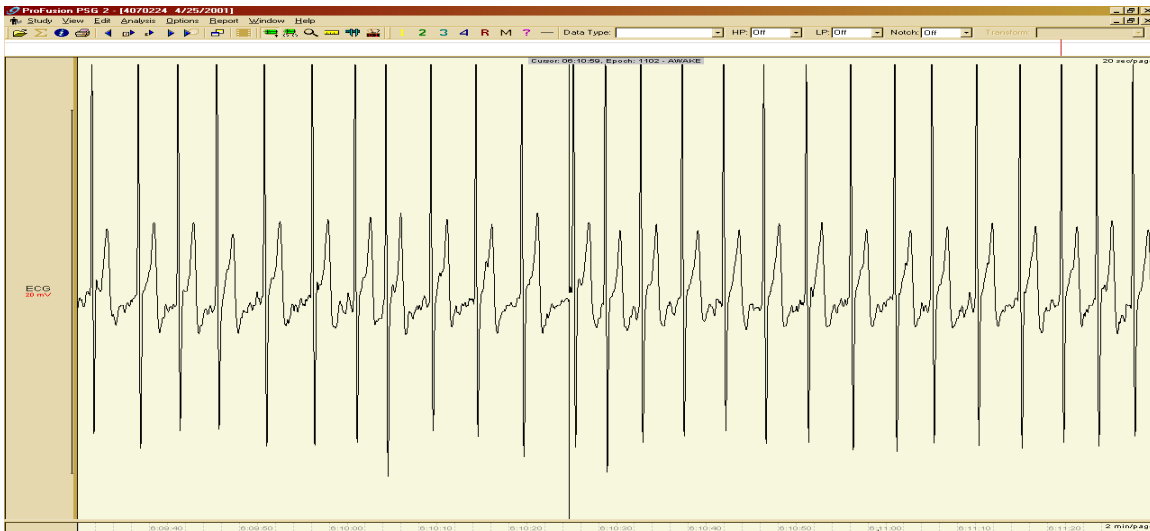
#### **NSVT Non Sustained V Tachycardia (rate $\geq$ 120)**



#### **Atrial Flutter, Rate within Limits**

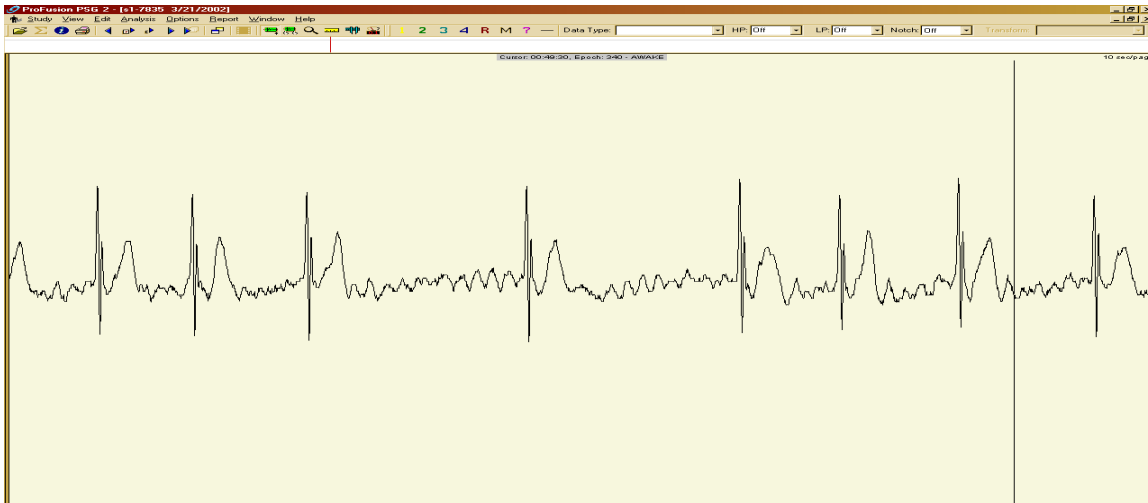


**Atrial fibrillation, rate >120**



**Atrial Fib/Flutter, rate <50**





### **Scoring Limitations or Unreliability**

Was the study scored with the minimal problems? The following boxes are checked when the scorer is unsure approximately 20% of the time (1 in 5) about classifying epochs/events when making a decision regarding each of the following

- Wake - Sleep unreliable: when the clarity of the EEG makes distinguishing the transition from Stage Wake to sleep uncertain.
- Stage 1/Stage 2 unreliable: when K-complexes and sleep spindles do not have show their classical morphology and distinction between Stage 1 and Stage 2 is doubtful (characteristic for the studies with low voltage EEG).
- Stage 2/Deep Sleep unreliable: when distinction between Stage 2 and Deep Sleep is unreliable because of EEG artifact (usually due to the respiratory artifact on the EEG).
- REM/NonREM unreliable: when identification of Stage REM is unreliable (usually due to poor or missing EMG or when both EOGs are absent).
- Arousals unreliable: when the technical quality of the study does not allow one to distinguish discrete increases in EEG frequency from background changes in EEG. EEG still may be of sufficient quality to score stages. Studies with the physiological alpha intrusion will have arousals scored regardless of difficulty, checking the “arousal unreliable” box requires approval by the CP.
- Arousals in REM unreliable: when EMG is artifactual or absent during all or REM portion of the study.
- Respiratory events/AHI unreliable: when due to the technical quality of the respiratory signals, distinctions between hypopneas and normal breaths are equivocal in over 20 % of scored events; also when the quality of the oximetry signal raises doubts about actual magnitude of desaturation linked with over 20 % of respiratory events (unstable baseline).
- Apnea/hypopnea unreliable – when airflow signal is artifactual or absent for over 20 % of scored respiratory events.

### **Unusual occurrences during sleep**

The following patterns are also noted on the QS form:

- **Abnormal Awake EEG:** when the waking EEG background rhythm consists of waves in the theta range. This should be distinguished from presence of theta waves as a result of excessive sleepiness, which will disappear after some period of sleep, and may indicate a neurological disorder or toxicity.
- **Physiologic alpha intrusion** - when alpha rhythm is present in more than 40% of Non-REM sleep, Alpha delta sleep.
- **Periodic breathing  $\geq$  10 minutes:** when the airflow or inductance channels are increasing and decreasing at least 50 % from the maximum, in a periodic (cyclic waxing and waning or "sinusoidal") manner, for a consecutive period of at least 10 min. Examples of this pattern will be printed and attached to the scoring form. Periodicity is noted independently from scoring apneas and hypopneas.
- **Periodic large breaths:** when very large breaths (one or two) occur periodically (mostly on the inductance channels) between runs of fairly normal breaths for a duration of at least 10 minutes. Examples of this pattern will be printed and attached to the scoring form.
- **Flow Limitation** - Flow limitation, as seen by the nasal cannula, which is not associated with respiratory events, and occurs in more than 10% of sleep time. On the QS Form, if 10% or more of the PSG contains nasal flow limitation, answer 'yes' to question 20 on the QS form. If it is less than 10%, answer 'no' to this question.
- **Leg Movements in Wake** - Study must have at least 10 minutes of wakefulness on the record. Leg movements not associated with obvious movement or artifact must be present during majority of wakefulness (more than 75%). This notation may be used to explore potential associations of Restless Legs Syndrome symptoms, PLMs, and this pattern.

Before the QS form is marked for the presence of abnormal events, such events will be reviewed with other scorers. Any study with abnormal events or problems with scoring will be discussed at the weekly QA meetings.

Any problems with the staging or marking arousals will be marked on the QS scoring notes form by checking appropriate boxes and/or by placing notes in the Notes section. All studies so marked will be reviewed with a physician investigator or other scorers.

### **Was any data lost?**

Some studies do not contain usable signals for the entire recording time or include only a portion of the sleep period.

- Recording ended before participant awoke - the last epoch of the study is any stage of sleep; or when an arousal is seen in the last few epochs of the study and there is a question if the participant actually awoke or would have returned to sleep (i.e., lack of sustained activity indicating "out of bed.").
- Recording starts in sleep indicating loss of data at beginning of study or unreliable.
- Data lost at end of study indicates a loss of data due to loss of key signals for scoring (oximetry, EEGs, etc.).
- Data lost – Other – indicates a loss of data due to poor technical quality of the signals for >30 minutes during study – usually indicating blocks of time scored as wake.

### **Study-by-Study Outlier Identification**

The Outlier program will be run after each study is scored and a report generated. The presence of the following potential outliers will be identified immediately after each study is scored and a report is generated

- 0 % of any sleep stage
- 90 % of any Non-REM sleep stage
- >60 % of Stage REM
- AHI3P = 0 or AHI3P > 160
- Obstructive apnea index > 80
- Central apnea index > 40
- Minimum desaturation < 40 %
- AI (Arousal Index ) < 3
- Apnea or hypopnea duration < 10 s.
- Oxygen saturation = 0.
- PLM Index > 100

If any of the outliers will be found, the scorer will review the study and identify the source. Any errors in scoring or editing will be corrected. New Short and Full reports will be generated and saved. The identification of outliers will be noted on the QS Form.

Scoring respiratory events/AHI unreliable: "Yes" will be checked when, due to the technical quality of the respiratory signals, over 20 % of scored events distinctions are equivocal; also when quality of the oximetry signal raises doubts about the actual magnitude of desaturation linked with over 20 % of respiratory events (unstable baseline).

Scoring apnea/hypopnea unreliable: "Yes" will be checked when airflow signal is bad or missing for over 20 % of scored respiratory events.

## **Summary of Procedures to Follow With Problematic Signals:**

EMG artifactual (does not show discernible amplitude variations): may result in difficulty distinguishing REM from non-REM and identify REM- associated arousals. Indicate limitations on form.

EEG artifactual: may result in unreliable or impossible staging and/or arousal identification. Indicate limitations and approaches on form.

Airflow signal poor: Results in all respiratory events defaulting to hypopneas (none qualify as apnea). Indicate limitations.

- Exception to identifying central events when airflow is poor: An exception occurs when both inductance channels (thoracic and abdomen) are flat for at least 10 s or more, and the entire duration of the event. Then the event will be marked as a central apnea.

Thoracic or/and abdominal channel poor: Results in events defaulting to “obstructive” (none qualify as “central”).

Situations when staging or scoring respiratory events are impossible during some portion of the study:

If this occurs at the beginning or end of the study, this period will be scored as stage Wake and edited lights will be set as “On” during this period (sleep latency will be unreliable if it is on the beginning). This action may result in artificially shortened sleep time. The appropriate box will be checked on PSG scoring form (Data Lost – Other)

If periods of data loss occurs in the middle of the study:

- if periods are < 30 min. long:
  - on the O<sub>2</sub>sat signal: period will be marked as a O<sub>2</sub> sat artifact
  - on airflow and both inductance channels: no respiratory events will be scored during this period
  - on both EEGs: period will be scored as a stage Wake
- if periods are ≥ 30 min. long then period of unscorable data will be marked as Stage Wake and on the PSG scoring form appropriate box (“Data lost – Other) will be checked. This action may result in artificially shortened sleep time.



ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

**PSG Receipt**

Date received:	Somite ID:	Site Number: 3 4 5 6 7 8
Week ending date:	Tech ID:	Code for site number : 3-WFU, 4-COL, 5-JHU, 6-UMN, 7-NWU, 8-UCLA

Study Passed?  (1) Yes  (2) No - Failed at RC  (3) No - Study Not Sent

Failure Reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason Codes for Failure: 1-Oximetry; 2-EEG; 3-Short Recording; 4-No Data on Card; 5-Other; 6-Participant; 7-Multiple; 8-Equipment-Unknown; 9-Disconnect; 10-Respiratory; 11-Corrupted file - no back up

Hook-up in Home:  (1) Yes  (0) No

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

High Priority Scoring:  (1) Yes  (0) No

**QS Form**

Partic. rpt time to bed:	Total time in bed: hrs min	Scorer ID:
Lights out:	Total sleep time: hrs min	Date scored:
Sleep onset:	AHI:	Week End Date:
Lights on:	SPO2 SV Form:	Pulse SV Form:

Channels	Hours of usable signal	Signal quality
E1 (EOGL)		1 2 3 4 5
E2 (EOGR)		1 2 3 4 5
Chin (Lchin-Cchin)		1 2 3 4 5
Fz-Cz		1 2 3 4 5
Cz-Oz		1 2 3 4 5
C4-M1		1 2 3 4 5
ECG (R ECG-L ECG)		1 2 3 4 5
Limb (Lleg- Rleg)		1 2 3 4 5
Airflow		1 2 3 4 5
Cannula Flow		1 2 3 4 5
Chest		1 2 3 4 5
Abdo		1 2 3 4 5
SpO2		1 2 3 4 5
Pleth		1 2 3 4 5
CannulaSnore		1 2 3 4 5
M1 Issues.	<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> (0) No
FPz (EOG C) issues.	<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> (0) No
Gnd/Ref (Lclav) Issues.	<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> (0) No
Position Issues.	<input type="checkbox"/> (1) Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> (0) No

Code for signals quality:	
Entire sleep time (> 95 %)	5
75 - 94 % of sleep time	4
50 - 74 % of sleep time	3
25 - 49 % of sleep time	2
< 25 % of sleep time	1

**Overall Study Quality:**

(7) **Outstanding.** All channels good for ≥ 6 hours and entire sleep time.

(6) **Excellent.** At least one EEG channel, one EOG channel, EMG, oximetry, all respiratory channels usable for ≥ 5 hours and ≥ 75% of the sleep time.

(5) **Very good.** At least one EEG channel, oximetry, airflow and either chest or abdomen usable for ≥ 5 hours and ≥ 50% of the sleep time

(4) **Good.** At least one respiratory channel (airflow or either band), oximetry and one EEG usable for ≥ 5 hours and ≥ 50% of the sleep time

(3) **Fair.** At least one respiratory channel, oximetry and one EEG usable for ≥ 3 hours or study scored sleep-wake only (because of the EEG artifact).

(2) **Failed.** Less than 3 hours useable data.

**Scored Sleep/Wake only:**  (1) Yes  (0) No

	Yes (1)	No (0)	Comments
1. Abnormal Referral - AHI > 50			
2. Urgent Referral - O2sat <85% for >10% TST			
3. Urgent Referral – Potential Urgent HR/ECG  0 = no heart rate issues 1 = Abnormalities seen - not clinically significant 2 = Potential Urgent - A-fib/flutter HR  4 = URGENT REFERRAL - Heart Rate (no A-fib)	2 4	0 1	If (2) Potential Urgent – Site notified to determine if meets urgent criteria.  If 4, check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd or 3rd degree block <input type="checkbox"/> HR above 150 bpm for ≥ 2 min <input type="checkbox"/> Acute ST Segment <input type="checkbox"/> HR < 30 bpm for ≥ 2 min <input type="checkbox"/> NSVT 3-beat run <input type="checkbox"/> Other
4. Data lost - Recording ended before awoke			
5. Data lost at the beginning of the study			
6. Data lost at the end of the study			
7. Data lost – Other			
8. Scoring stage Wake/Sleep unreliable			
9. Scoring Stage 1/ Stage 2 unreliable			
10. Scoring Stage 2/ Deep sleep unreliable			
11. Scoring REM/NREM unreliable			
12. Scoring arousals unreliable			
13. Scoring arousals in REM (only) unreliable			
14. Scoring respiratory events (AHI) unreliable			
15. Scoring Apnea/Hypopnea unreliable			
16. Abnormal awake EEG			
17. Physiologic alpha intrusion			
18. Periodic breathing ≥ 10 min			
19. Periodic large breaths			
20. Flow limitation - >10% of sleep time			
21. Leg movements at least 75% present in 10 minutes minimum wake			
22. Extreme staging distribution			
23. AHI = 0 verified			
24. Arousal Index < 3 verified			
25. Max length respiratory event >150s verified			
26. PLM > 100 verified			
27. Other outlier			
28. DHR data invalid. N/A on Short Report			

**Signal Quality Issues - Other Comments**

---



---

**Appendix B**



**Participant ID**    *xxxxx*

**Sleep Report**

Study Date 1/1/12

Lights Out = 21:00:58  
 Lights On = 07:30:59  
 Sleep Onset = 22:19:59  
 Sleep latency = 79.0 minutes  
 Total time in bed = 10:30  
 Total sleep time = 08:38  
 Sleep efficiency = 82.2 %  
 Total time for REM (dreaming) sleep = 01:14

AHI =9.61  
 (Total number of apnea and hypopnea associated with  $\geq$  3% desat per hour of sleep)

	% sleep time	Minutes
Stage I	8.98	00:47
Stage II	65.3	05:38
Stage III/IV	11.6	01:00
Stage REM	14.2	01:14

Arousal Index = 11.7 /hr  
 Obstructive Apnea Index (# of obstructive apneas per hr /sleep) = 0.7  
 Central Apnea Index (# of central apneas per hr of sleep) = 0.0  
 Average Heart Rate for sleep time = 59 bpm

SaO2 %	% Sleep time
< 95	51.7
< 90	0.41
< 85	0.01
< 80	0
< 75	0
< 70	0

SaO2 %	REM	NREM
Average	94	94
Minimum	84	85
Maximum	97	97

Periodic Limb Movements:

**Number of movements during sleep:**                    **0**  
**PLM Index:**    **0.0 # per hour of sleep**