



## Abnormal Involuntary Movement Scale (AIMS) cont.

### EXAMINATION PROCEDURE:

- Either before or after completing the examination procedure, observe patient unobtrusively (e.g., in waiting room).
- The chair to be used in the examination should be a hard, firm one without arms.

1. Ask the patient whether there is anything in his or her mouth (e.g. gum or candy) and if so, to remove it.
2. Ask about 'current' condition of the patient's teeth. Ask if he/she wears dentures. Ask whether teeth/dentures bother the patient 'now.'
3. Ask whether the patient notices any movements in his/her mouth, face, hands, or feet. If yes, ask patient to describe them and to indicate to what extent they 'currently' bother him/her or interfere with activities.
4. Have patient sit in chair with hands on knees, legs slightly apart, and feet flat on floor. (Look at entire body for movements.)
5. Ask patient to sit with hands hanging unsupported – if males, between legs, if female and wearing a dress, hanging over her knees. (Observe hands and other body areas).
6. Ask patient to open his/her mouth. (Observe tongue at rest within mouth.) Do this twice.
7. Ask patient to protrude tongue. (Observe abnormalities of tongue movement.) Do this twice.
8. Ask patient to tap thumb with each finger as rapidly as possible for 10-20 secs, first with right hand, then with left. (Observe facial and leg movements.) [±activated]
9. Flex and extend the patient's left and right arms, one at a time.
10. Ask patient to stand up. (Observe patient in profiles. Observe all body areas again, hips included.)
11. Ask patient to extend both arms out in front, palms down. (Observe trunk, legs, and mouth.) [activated]
12. Have patient walk a few paces, turn, and walk back to the chair. (Observe hands and gait.) Do this twice. [activated]