

Reliable administration of 'The Melbourne Assessment of Unilateral Upper Limb Function'.

In order to be a competent and reliable administrator of the Melbourne Assessment it is recommended that you undertake the following tasks with a colleague if possible:

- administer the test to 5 children (with each clinician alternating between operating the video camera and administering the test items)
- choose children with a range of ages &/or types of cerebral palsy
- check your camera angles and administration process after the 1st and 2nd assessments
- score the videotape of the 1st assessment together and where necessary discuss the specific scoring criteria for individual sub-items so you have a common understanding and agreement of sub-item scores
- each clinician should then score the other 4 videotaped assessments by themselves
- compare your scores for all children (less than 5% difference in total test scores between clinicians is considered an acceptable level for inter-scorer agreement)
- discuss any differences in sub-item scores to clarify understanding of specific criteria and come to a consensus in scores given
- individually re-score all 5 children at least 2 - 3 weeks later and compare your second scoring with your original to check intra-rater reliability
- 5% scoring error (i.e. + /- 6 raw points when all test items are administered) is the accepted convention for intra-rater reliability

Quality assurance issues

- It is appropriate to re-do your intra-rater agreement check periodically to ensure you continue to administer and score reliably