

INTER-SCORER RELIABILITY

PURPOSE

Regular assessment of scoring reliability for all scoring parameters among all scorers assures the consistency of scoring in accordance with the current version of the *AASM Scoring Manual*.

POLICY

All individuals who score sleep studies will have reliability assessments with the facility director, as defined in the *AASM Standards for Accreditation*, who serves as the “gold standard” for agreement. Reliability measures are reviewed quarterly by the facility director as part of the quality assurance program. All individuals who score sleep studies will utilize the American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM) Inter-Scorer Reliability (ISR) program on a monthly basis.

PROCEDURE

- 1.0** Each scorer will log-in to the AASM ISR online program and score the assigned 200 selected epochs using the criteria written in the current version of the *AASM Scoring Manual*. The AASM serves as the gold standard for comparison.
- 2.0** Reports are printed and maintained in a binder with a quarterly report of results.
- 3.0** The facility director will review reports to determine scorers meet an acceptable level of agreement for scorer reliability (85% overall).
- 4.0** The supervisor/facility director will develop an action plan for each technologist when scoring falls below the acceptable level of agreement. Such plans may include, but are not limited to:
 - 4.1 Review of the current version of the *AASM Scoring Manual*
 - 4.2 Review of the AASM ISR Record Review Video
 - 4.3 Additional inter-scorer assessment with review
 - 4.4 Focused review/re-training with the supervisor
 - 4.5 Educational assistance from the facility director