

NIHSS:

Patient Sticker

Large Artery Stroke Screening Forms for VAN + Protocol

1. **How weak is patient on one side of body?**

If patient shows no weakness then CTA not urgent. Patient is VAN negative.

- Mild (minor drift) (**hold both arms up for 10 seconds**)
- Moderate (severe drift - touches or nearly touches ground)
- Severe (flaccid or no antigravity)
- Patient shows no weakness. Patient is VAN negative. CTA not urgent. **(exception are confused or comatose patient's with dizziness, focal findings or no reason for their altered mental status then Basilar artery thrombus must be considered, CTA is warranted)**

2. **Visual Disturbance?**

- Field Cut (which side) (**4 quadrants**)
- Double vision (ask patient and look to right then left, evaluate for uneven eyes)
- Blind new onset
- NONE

3. **Aphasia?**

- Expressive (inability to speak or errors) **don't count slurring of words (repeat & name 2 objects)**
- Receptive (not understanding or following commands) (**close eyes, make fist**)
- Mixed
- NONE

4. **Neglect?**

- Forced gaze or inability to track to one side
- Unable to feel both sides at same time, or unable to identify own arm
- Ignoring one side
- NONE

All VAN positive patients should be sent to endovascular capable hospital & notified ahead of time. NeuroIR paged w VAN positive patient arriving. CT/CTA done on arrival.

If patient has **any weakness PLUS any one of the below:**

Visual Disturbance (field cut, double, or blind vision)

Aphasia (inability to speak or understand)

Neglect (gaze to one side or ignoring one side)

This is likely a large artery clot (cortical symptoms) = VAN Positive