

The diagnosis of Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS) and the Lake Louise Score (LLS)

A diagnosis of AMS is based on:

1. A rise in altitude within the last 4 days
2. Presence of a headache

PLUS

3. Presence of at least one other symptom
4. A total score of 3 or more from the questions below

SELF-REPORT QUESTIONNAIRE

Add together the individual scores for each symptom to get the **total score**.

Headache	No headache	0	
	Mild headache	1	
	Moderate headache	2	
	Severe headache, incapacitating	3	
Gastrointestinal symptoms			
	None	0	
	Poor appetite or nausea	1	
	Moderate nausea &/or vomiting	2	
	Severe nausea &/or vomiting	3	
Fatigue &/or weakness			
	Not tired or weak	0	
	Mild fatigue/ weakness	1	
	Moderate fatigue/ weakness	2	
	Severe fatigue/ weakness	3	
Dizziness/lightheadedness			
	Not dizzy	0	
	Mild dizziness	1	
	Moderate dizziness	2	
	Severe dizziness, incapacitating	3	
Difficulty sleeping			
	Slept as well as usual	0	
	Did not sleep as well as usual	1	
	Woke many times, poor sleep	2	
	Could not sleep at all	3	
TOTAL SCORE:			

Total score of:

- 3 to 5 = mild AMS
- 6 or more = severe AMS

Note:

- Do not ascend with symptoms of AMS
- Descend if symptoms are not improving or getting worse
- Descend if symptoms of HACE or HAPE develop