

Doctors reveal hidden warning signs about Biden's health

Story by Luke Andrews Senior Health Reporter For Dailymail.Com

Doctors who watched [Joe Biden](#) 's address to the nation tonight have revealed the subtle clues about the president's health.

They pointed out that the speech was relatively short - coming in at just 11 minutes - and that Biden read exclusively from a teleprompter, making it difficult to make a definitive assessment of his mental and physical well-being.

However, [Virginia](#) neurologist Dr W Chris Winter picked up on the 81-year-old's low blink rate.

'I was counting the blink rate of all the ABC correspondents and guests before [the address] and they ranged from 30 to 60 per minute,' he told DailyMail.com.



Doctors who watched Joe Biden 's address to the nation tonight have revealed the subtle clues about the president's health. They warned his lack of blinking may suggest a neurological issue. His dry mouth and stiff hands implies cognitive

decline. They also highlighted his generous application of makeup - likely to mask his pale skin © Provided by Daily Mail

He said the president blinked fewer than 10 times per minute on average, well below the average of 15 to 20 that most people experience.



Joe Biden's historic address to America from the Oval Office - and his defiant body language - implies he still does not accept he should be stepping down. Body language expert Judi James said the President's regular finger jabbing during his speech last night was an attempt to show 'defiance' to the tens of millions watching in the US and around the world. ©Provided by Daily Mail

'Low blink rate can be a sign of Parkinson's Disease... an earlier sign of the disease,' Dr Winter added.

Many medical experts have previously suggested Biden's apparent cognitive decline could be due to his suffering from an early form of the condition, especially after it emerged a [Parkinson's doctor regularly visited the White House](#) during Biden's tenure.

Dr Ernst von Schwarz, a cardiologist in [California](#), said Biden's 'dry mouth, fixed stare, very little... hand movements and gestures... could be signs of cognitive decline' caused by his age, or 'a neurodegenerative condition' such as dementia.

But they could also be due to medication, the doctor told DailyMail.com.

Keep in mind that there are ways to improve someone's speech by medical intervention,' he said.

'The use of medications such as psychostimulants (like Adderall or Ritalin among others) is very common for many to take just before lectures or presentations or official tasks since they increase dopamine availability in the brain.

'This can then temporarily modify the trajectory of cognitive decline and improves speech, attention and the capability to communicate.

'I am not saying that President Biden is on stimulants but it would not be that unusual to use.'

Biden addressed the nation for the first time tonight after revealing his decision to pull out of the presidential race in a shock announcement Sunday that is said to have caught even his close team by surprise.

Despite having nearly four days of practice, the president flubbed several lines and at times spoke so quietly that white noise could be heard during the broadcast.

Dr Winter said a low voice was another warning sign of Parkinson's.

He suggested the quietness of Biden's voice may have led technicians to turn up his microphones, leading to more background noise being picked up.

The doctors also highlighted Biden's generous application of makeup.

They said he appeared more orange than usual, likely to mask the president's pale skin, which may have gotten worse when he was unwell with Covid this past week.

'Clearly there was lots of makeup. I think he is probably very pale, you could see it on the neckline,' Dr von Schwarz said.

'They put a lot of makeup on him to make him look healthy, but obviously he is not. He is very frail in my opinion.'

Both medics agreed that Biden appeared 'no worse' than at previous times over the past few months, which suggests that while he may be declining, it is not enough to warrant urgent medical attention.

But Dr von Schwarz added: 'He was reading from a teleprompter which is just a repetition technique, which makes it hard to measure his intellectual capability.

'But anyone can do that, you don't need to be a genius to do so.'

He added: 'A practiced speech read from a teleprompter is not proof for full mental or intellectual capacity.'

Both said it was also difficult to assess his movements because he remained seated for the full speech.



Judi James has studied the speech and given her verdict on what his body language really said about his health and frame of mind. She said: 'Joe Biden's use of authority and control rituals and gestures suggest a deep sense of reluctance to quit. Silence his words and his non-verbal displays here would suit a more defiant message as though he were still clinging on to his role as leader. ©Provided by Daily Mail



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EYES ROUNDED, EYEBROW RAISED SHOWS DEEP SENSE OF RELUCTANCE TO QUIT



But his staring eyes showed he was 'fearful, haunted and in a state of disbelief' - and his regular gritting of teeth showed anger and a 'reluctance to quit'. And while he refused to discuss his own health, Mr Biden's address also laid bare how it has faltered in the past year - with more mumbling and a lack of clarity.

'His enunciation has eroded, even from his last appearances. Biden's clearest moments have previously come when reading from autocue, but that clarity is sadly lacking here', Ms James said. In his speech, Biden outlined his reasons for exiting the 2024 campaign while making the argument he could serve another four years if he chose. ©Provided by Daily Mail

Dr Winter said: 'Overall, I thought he did well.

'He could sit there, talk with conviction, there was cadence in his voice - I don't know if it proves anything but it certainly doesn't continue to show a [rapid] decline.'

He added: 'If that had happened three weeks ago, I don't think anyone would have said they had lost confidence in Biden.'

Dr von Schwarz said: 'In general, of course, I would have expected a good, sound and intelligible speech from President Biden today, and he did well.

'From my point of view of dealing daily with the elderly as a cardiologist and aging researcher, I think President Biden is an octogenarian... who [deserves to get more rest, support and appropriate medical attention.](#)'