

Descriptions of Most Commonly Ordered Neurocognitive Core Services

1. Zarit Burden Interview

This is a self-report scale that measures the subjective burden experienced by the caregivers of individuals with memory problems or dementia. Each question is scored on a 5 point Likert scale, ranging from 0 (never) to 4 (nearly always present). Total scores range from 0 (low burden) to 88 (high burden).

<http://www.apa.org/pi/about/publications/caregivers/practice-settings/assessment/tools/zarit.aspx>

2. Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale - Cognitive (ADAS-COG)

The ADAS-COG is typically used to measure the cognitive outcomes for Alzheimer patients. The ADAS-COG 11 involves administering 11 tasks that measure the changes in memory, language, praxis, attention and other cognitive abilities that comprise the main characteristics of Alzheimer patients. The ADAS-COG 13 & 14 scales include additional tasks that measure visuomotor speed.

<https://www.verywell.com/alzheimers-disease-assessment-scale-98625>

3. The Repeatable Battery for the Assessment of Neuropsychological Status (RBANS)

The RBANS is used to diagnose the neurocognitive status in adolescents. It is useful in tracking the progression of cognitive functioning in patients. It consists of 10 subtests measuring the following domains: Immediate memory, Delayed memory, Visuospatial/Construction, Language and Attention.

<http://gla-rehab.com/repeatable-battery-for-neuropsychological-status-rbans-a-screeningtool-following-head-injury/>

4. Colour Trails Test (CTT)

The CTT consists of two parts in which the subject is instructed to connect a set of 25 dots as quickly as possible while still maintaining accuracy. The test can provide information about visual search speed, scanning, speed of processing, mental flexibility, as well as executive functioning. It has been designed to minimize language and cultural biases.

https://www.strokingengine.ca/en/indepth/ctt_indepth/

5. Alzheimer's Disease Co-operative Study - Activities of Daily Living (ADCS-ADL)

The ADCS-ADL is a caregiver-rated questionnaire to assess the functional capacity to perform daily activities. It has 23 items, with possible scores over a range of 0-78, where 78 indicates full functioning with no impairment.

<https://eprovide.mapi-trust.org/instruments/alzheimer-s-disease-cooperative-study-activities-of-daily-living>

6. Clinical Dementia Rating (CDR)

The CDR is a structured interview used to stage the severity of dementia. It assesses six domains of cognitive and functional performance applicable to Alzheimer disease and related dementias: Memory; Orientation; Judgment and Problem Solving; Community Affairs; Home and Hobbies; and Personal Care.

<http://alzheimer.wustl.edu/cdr/ad8.htm>

7. Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study - Clinical Global Impression of Change (CGIC) and Clinician Interview-Based Impression of Change Plus (CIBIC+)

The ADCS-CGIC is the most commonly used instrument to assess clinically meaningful change in clinical trials. It is performed by interviewing the patient and the informant to

assess patient's function and mental status, using a worksheet that comprehensively lists relevant symptoms. The CIBIC+, which also incorporates caregiver input, is part of the FDA-recommended approach for obtaining a global rating.

<http://adrc.usc.edu/cgic/>

8. Beck Depression Inventory (BDI-II)

The BDI is a multiple-choice self-report questionnaire that measures the severity of depression. It contains 21 questions, each being scored on a scale of 0 to 3. Higher total scores indicate more severe depressive symptoms.

<http://www.apa.org/pi/about/publications/caregivers/practice-settings/assessment/tools/beck-depression.aspx>

9. Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS)

The GDS is a self-report scale used to identify depression in the elderly. The GDS can be administered as a 30-item scale or a shorter 15-item version, which has been shown to be an adequate substitute of the longer scale.

Web link to be provided later

10. Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE)

The MMSE is a 30-point test used to rapidly screen for cognitive impairment. It is extensively used in clinical and research settings. The test assesses orientation; memory; attention and calculation; language; and praxis.

<https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/mini-mental-state-examination-mmse>

11. MoCA (Montreal Cognitive Assessment)

The MoCA is a 30-point test used to rapidly screen for mild cognitive impairment. It assesses orientation; memory; attention and concentration; calculations; language; executive functions; visuoconstructional skills; and conceptual thinking.

<https://www.mocatest.org/>

12. Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly (IQCODE)

The IQCODE is a 16-point test used to rapidly screen for dementia, especially for situations where the subject is unable to undergo comprehensive neuropsychological testing. Typically used together with other brief cognitive tests such as the MMSE or MoCA.

http://www.strokecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/blessed_dementia.pdf