

Most commonly used instrument for screening cognitive function. Doesn't test long term memory. Biased by educational level, ability, sensory/language barriers.

Scoring 25-30/30=normal, 18-24=mild-moderate impairment, and <18=severe impairment.

Orientation

- What is the year, season, date, day and month (5pts)
- Where are we: town, state, country, which hospital, and which floor or ward (5pts).

Registration

- Name 3 objects (e.g., apple, book, coat). Ask patient to repeat list. (3pts)
- Can then repeat the object names until all 3 are learned (up to 6 trials).

Attention and Calculation

- Spell "world" backwards. 1 point for each letter that is in the right place (max 5pts).
- Or: Serial 7s from 100 for 5 subtractions. 1 point for each correct subtraction.

Recall

- Ask for the 3 objects repeated above (3pts).

Language

- Ask the patient to name 2 objects(e.g. pen, watch) (2pts)
- Ask the person to repeat the following: "No ifs, ands or buts" (1 pt)
- Give the person a piece of blank white paper & ask them to follow a 3-stage command: "Take a paper in your right hand, fold it in half and put it on the floor" (3pts)
- Write "CLOSE YOUR EYES" on paper and ask him to do what it says (1pt).
- Ask patient to write a sentence of their choice on a blank piece of paper. The sentence must contain a subject and a verb, and must make sense. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are not important (1pt).
- Show the person a drawing of 2 pentagons which intersect to form a quadrangle. Each side should be about 1.5 cm. Ask them to copy the design exactly as it is (1 pt). All 10 angles need to be present and the two shapes must intersect to score. Tremor and rotation are ignored.

