





## KEY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT TOOLS

**FOR USE IN  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
HOME CARE**

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## Benefits of Using Evidenced Based Tools

- 1-Determine specific symptoms
- 2-Diagnosis individual Conditions
  - Serve as checklists
- 3-Assess improvement and deterioration
- 4-Highlight potential side effects of Treatment
- 5-Provides consistency
- 6. Evidence based practice
- 7-Provide outcomes
- 8-Increases access to funding



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## Assessments: Which Ones To Use?

Depression and  
Suicide  
M1730  
GDS  
PHQ9  
SAD PERSONS

Anxiety  
M1720  
Hamilton Anxiety Scale  
Wass Inventory

Cognitive Impairment  
M1700/M1710  
MMSE  
& Others

Schizophrenia &  
Psychosis  
M1740/M1745  
SPS & ALES

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# Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully

## Cognitive Function:

M1700- score of "2" or > requires Mini-Cog  
and M1710 – Helpful to Ask Others – Patient  
May not Recognize own Confusion – same as  
above-  
score of "2" or > requires Mini-Cog &/or FAST  
and Comments

**IF patient had Alzheimer's & /or a dementia dx  
do not have to do Mini-Cog**

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## MINI-COG

1. THREE Word RE-CALL
2. CLOCK DRAWING TEST



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## Mini-Cog Assessment Tool

- Valid instrument for screening cognitive impairment
- Consists of 3-item recall test and a clock drawing task
- Two-part test of executive function (ability to plan, manage time, organize activities)
- Simple, effective, easy to use
  - Uncovers cognitive impairment in its earliest stages
- 3-5 Minutes
- Great for use in Primary Care
- <http://vimeo.com/4361918>

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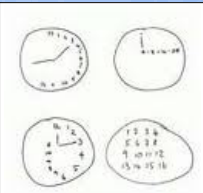
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MINI-COG –Apple, Table Penny

**Clock drawing Test**



**SCORING**

Give 1 point for each recalled word after the CDT distracter. Score 1–3.

A score of 0 indicates positive screen for dementia.

A score of 1 or 2 with an abnormal CDT indicates positive screen for dementia.

A score of 1 or 2 with a normal CDT indicates negative screen for dementia.

A score of 3 indicates negative screen for dementia.

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## Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully

**DEPRESSION:**

A score of 3 on PHQ-2 or higher should trigger a complete Depression Assessment using a Standardized Tool such as PHQ-9 or Geriatric Depression Scale (short version)

Also important to assess: flat facial expression, lack of eye contact, slumped posture, unkempt appearance, slow response to questions, tendency to become teary and irritability – **IMPORTANT TO OBSERVE THESE BEHAVIORS AND DOCUMENT – CAN'T INFER DEPRESSION FROM THESE OBSERVATIONS ALONE!!**

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## Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully



**DEPRESSION- (Continued)**

USE ONE OF ADDITIONAL ASSESSMENTS/INVENTORIES

1. PHQ9
2. Geriatric Depression Scale

DOCUMENT SCORE

(If patient is elderly and confused – complete Depression Scale + Mini-Cog)

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## Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully



### SUICIDALITY:

M1730 a Score of 3 on PHQ2 should trigger additional Depression assessment tool – PHQ9 or GDS. Also, to assess suicide risk

HISTORY – SUICIDAL ATTEMPT?? CURRENT PLAN? METHOD TO CARRY OUT PLAN?

These items MUST be explored – Remember that YOU WILL NOT MAKE SOMEONE COMMIT SUICIDE IF YOU ASK THEM ABOUT IT – TO THE CONTRARY – TALKING ABOUT IT DECREASES THE DESIRE TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH IT-

COMPLETE "SAD PERSONS" Suicide Assessment Tool – IMPLEMENT PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY POLICY IF NECESSARY

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## Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully



### SUICIDALITY

M1740: #2-Impaired Decision-making

#4- Physical Aggression

# 6-Delusional, hallucinatory, or paranoid

HISTORY – SUICIDAL ATTEMPT??

USE COMMENT SECTION – COMPLETE "SAD PERSONS" Suicide Assessment Tool

Many items on SAD Persons are asked as part of OASIS-C

IMPLEMENT PSYCHIATRIC EMERGENCY POLICY IF NECESSARY

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## Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully



### ANXIETY :

Item M1720

Frequently Accompanies Depression BUT May Also Exist By Itself

A rating of **daily** may indicate serious anxiety. Ask how Anxiety Affects Patient's life – Does it interfere with Sleep; from Going Out of House; From Engaging in Physical Care or Activities. Document in Comments Section What Patient Says About Impact of Anxiety on Life and Follow up with Anxiety Specific Assessment Anxiety/Stress Inventory or Hamilton Anxiety Scale

Necessary to Directly Inquire About Presence and Extent of Anxiety.

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# Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully



A rating of daily may indicate serious anxiety. Ask how Anxiety Affects Patient's life – Does it interfere with Sleep; from Going Out of House; From Engaging in Physical Care or Activities. Document in Comments Section What Patient Says About Impact of Anxiety on Life and Follow up with Anxiety Specific Assessment Anxiety/Stress Inventory or Hamilton Anxiety Scale

WHAT MEDICAL CONDITIONS COMMONLY INCLUDE ANXIETY AS A CO-MORBID DX?

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## ANXIETY RATING TOOLS

<b>Hamilton Anxiety Rating Scale(HAM-A)</b> -Assess frequency, durations of 14 anxiety symptoms. -Can use script -See attached	<b>Anxiety/Stress Inventory</b> -Can use as self rated tool or ask questions
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# Assessment - Let's Look More Carefully



**SCHIZOPHRENIA AND OTHER PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS:**

**OASIS LESS HELPFUL IN ASSESSING BEHAVIORS ASSOCIATED WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA OR OTHER PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS.**

**M1740 – Most important item –choices 2, 3, 4, 5, and/or 6 could point to psychotic behavior or behavior that is motivated by internal stimuli and experienced only by the patient. The nurse may observe the behaviors or they may be reported by family member, significant other or another health care provider – source of information should be documented .**

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## ASSESSMENT REMINDER

**ON ADMISSION**

- GDS or PHQ-9 (if PHQ-2+ or referred for Depression)
- Mini-Cog
- Hamilton Anxiety (if daily anxiety or referred for Anxiety)

**(Week 8 & 9) RECERT**

- GDS or PHQ-9 Anxiety (if + at admission)
- Mini-Cog (if + on admission)
- Hamilton Anxiety (if + at admission)

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## DOCUMENTATION



- Document the results of scales in notes
- Communicate findings to MDs, NPs involved in patient's care
- Useful in assessing progress and medication effectiveness

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## QUESTIONS



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