

Measures used in the screening, assessment and diagnosis of dementia in people with an intellectual disability

Scale	Method	Commentary
Cambridge Examination for Mental Disorders of the Elderly, modified for use assessing people with Down Syndrome (CAMDEX- DS)	Direct assessment	While there is limited information on reliability, the CAMDEX- DS appears to be a valid tool for aiding the diagnosis of dementia, which has been standardized for use with people with intellectual disability
Cambridge Cognitive Examination, modified for use in a group with Down syndrome (CAMCOG- DS)	Direct assessment	While no reliability information specific to the CAMCOG- DS could be found, research demonstrates the CAMCOG- DS is a valid method of tracking change associated with Alzheimer's disease (AD) within, and between, groups. It has been standardized for use with people with intellectual disability. Hon et al. (1999) suggest that the assessment is not useful for people in the late stages of dementia or with severe intellectual disability
Dementia Questionnaire for People with Learning Disabilities (DLD)	Informant	The DLD has poor inter- rater reliability, particularly on behaviour and disturbance items. Sensitivity and specificity values for people with intellectual disability and dementia are variable, but good for people with Down syndrome (DS) and dementia. Research suggests it should not be used with people with severe intellectual disability, although inter- rater agreement has been found to be better for individuals with intellectual disability who are less able
Down Syndrome Mental Status Examination (DSMSE)	Direct assessment	No information was found about the reliability of the measure. There is some evidence that it can discriminate between those with and without dementia in individuals with a moderate intellectual disability (although age may influence scores), but it appears unsuitable for use with individuals with a severe intellectual disability
Cognitive Scale for Down Syndrome (CS- DS)	Informant	The CS- DS is a relatively new scale, but initial research has suggested that it has good psychometric properties. Further independent research is needed on the measure
Severe Impairment Battery (SIB)	Direct assessment	The SIB is used with some frequency with people with intellectual disability. While there has been limited evaluation in relation

		to people with intellectual disability, the available research has suggested that it has good test–retest and concurrent validity
Rivermead Behavioural Memory Test – 3rd edition (RBMT- 3)	Direct assessment	Overall, earlier versions of the RBMT have shown good psychometric properties. There has been limited research on the most recent version and in relation to people with intellectual disability. Previous research has suggested that it may have some utility when used with people with DS, but may demonstrate floor effects in individuals with more severe intellectual disability or those who already have dementia
Dementia Rating Scale (DRS)	Informant	There is limited research in relation to people with intellectual disability. Further research is needed to clarify the psychometric properties of the assessment when used with people with intellectual disability and dementia
Test for Severe Impairment (TSI)	Direct assessment	The test has a very short administration time (approximately 10 min). There is some evidence of reliability and validity in relation to people with intellectual disability, although the sample size was small and the research was conducted a number of years ago
Mini- Mental State Examination (MMSE)	Direct assessment	There is very little information on the use of the MMSE with people with intellectual disability. Further research is needed to establish its psychometric properties in relation to people with intellectual disability and dementia
Neurotrax Computerized Moderate to Severe Impairment Battery	Direct assessment	Very limited information is provided regarding the reliability of the measure. Limited validity information was provided as well, but authors state it can be used to track change through time
Prudhoe Cognitive Function Test (PCFT)	Direct assessment	Further validity information would be desirable. What is available indicates this measure shows promise due to its high concurrent validity with other standardized measures

Adapted From:

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