

Reference Card: The Neuropsychiatric Inventory Questionnaire

Subject: _____ Informant: Spouse Child Other Date: _____

Please answer the following questions based on changes that have occurred since the patient first began to experience memory problems.

Circle "Yes" only if the symptom(s) has been present in the last month.

Otherwise, circle "No". For each item marked "Yes":

a) Rate the SEVERITY of the symptom (how it affects the patient):

- 1 = Mild (noticeable, but not a significant change)
- 2 = Moderate (significant, but not a dramatic change)
- 3 = Severe (very marked or prominent, a dramatic change)

b) Rate the DISTRESS you experience due to that symptom (how it affects you):

- 0 = Not distressing at all
- 1 = Minimal (slightly distressing, not a problem to cope with)
- 2 = Mild (not very distressing, generally easy to cope with)
- 3 = Moderate (fairly distressing, not always easy to cope with)
- 4 = Severe (very distressing, difficult to cope with)
- 5 = Extreme or Very Severe (extremely distressing, unable to cope with)

Please answer each question carefully. Ask for assistance if you have any questions.

Delusions			Does the patient have false beliefs, such as thinking that others are stealing from him/her or planning to harm him/her in some way?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Hallucinations			Does the patient have hallucinations such as false visions or voices? Does he or she seem to hear or see things that are not present?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Agitation/Aggression			Is the patient resistive to help from others at times, or hard to handle?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Depression/Dysphoria			Does the patient seem sad or say that he/she is depressed?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Anxiety			Does the patient become upset when separated from you? Does he/she have any other signs of nervousness such as shortness of breath, sighing, being unable to relax, or feeling excessively tense?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Elation/Euphoria			Does the patient appear to feel too good or act excessively happy?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Apathy/Indifference			Does the patient seem less interested in his/her usual activities or in the activities and plans of others?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Disinhibition			Does the patient seem to act impulsively, for example, talking to strangers as if he/she knows them, or saying things that may hurt people's feelings?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Irritability/Lability			Is the patient impatient and cranky? Does he/she have difficulty coping with delays or waiting for planned activities?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Motor disturbance			Does the patient engage in repetitive activities such as pacing around the house, handling buttons, wrapping string, or doing other things repeatedly?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Nighttime behaviors			Does the patient awaken you during the night, rise too early in the morning, or take excessive naps during the day?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5
Appetite/Eating			Has the patient lost or gained weight, or had a change in the type of food he/she likes?									
Yes	No	SEVERITY:	1	2	3	DISTRESS:	0	1	2	3	4	5

For use by medical practitioners and qualified RACF staff

For details see Clinical Information Sheet: BPSD Produced by North West Melbourne Division of General Practice May 2006

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