

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

This is a semi-structured interview. Please ask all of these questions. Ask any additional questions necessary to determine the subject's Clinical Dementia Rating (CDR). Please note information from the additional questions.

Memory Questions for the person close to the subject:

1. Does he/she have a problem with his/her memory or thinking? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 1a. If yes, is this a consistent problem (as opposed to inconsistent)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Can he/she recall recent events? ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
3. Can he/she remember a short list of items (shopping)? ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
4. Has there been some decline in memory during the past year? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Is his/her memory impaired to such a degree that it would have interfered with his/her activities of daily life a few years ago (or pre-retirement activities)? (in the opinion of family and friends) ☐ Yes ☐ No
6. Does he/she completely forget a major event (e.g., trip, social function, family wedding) within a few weeks of the event? ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
7. Does he/she forget pertinent details of the major event? ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
8. Does he/she completely forget important information of the distant past (e.g., birthdate, wedding date, place of employment)? ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
9. Tell me about some recent event in his/her life that he/she should remember. (For later comparison with the subject's responses, obtain details such as location of the event, time of day, participants, how long the event was, when it ended and how the subject or other participants got there).

Within 1 week:

Within 1 month:

10. When was he/she born?

11. Where was he/she born?

12. What was the last school he/she attended?

- Name

- Town/City

- Highest level achieved

13. What was his/her main occupation/job (or spouse's job if subject was not employed)?

14. What was his/her last major job (or spouse's job if subject was not employed)?

15. When did he/she (or spouse) retire and why?

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

Orientation Questions for the person close to the subject:

How often does he/she know of the exact:

1. Date of the Month?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

2. Month?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

3. Year?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

4. Day of the Week?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

5. Does he/she have difficulty with time relationships (when events happened in relation to each other)?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

6. Can he/she find his/her way about familiar streets?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

7. How often does he/she know how to get from one place to another outside his/her neighbourhood?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

8. How often can he/she find his/her way about indoors?

☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

Judgment and Problem Solving Questions for the person close to the subject:

1. In general, if you had to rate his/her abilities to solve problems at the present time, would you consider them:

- ☐ As good as they have ever been
☐ Good, but not as good as before
☐ Fair
☐ Poor
☐ No ability at all

2. Rate his/her ability to cope with small sums of money (e.g., give change, calculate the cost of groceries sold by weight):

- ☐ No loss
☐ Some loss
☐ Severe loss

3. Rate his/her ability to handle complicated financial or business transactions (e.g., balance check-book, pay bills):

- ☐ No loss
☐ Some loss
☐ Severe loss

4. Can he/she handle a household emergency (e.g., plumbing leak, small fire)?

- ☐ As well as before
☐ Worse than before because of trouble thinking
☐ Worse than before, another reason (why) _____

5. Can he/she understand situations or explanations?

- ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

6. Does he/she behave* appropriately [i.e., in his/her usual (premorbid) manner] in social situations and interactions with other people?

- ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Don't Know

*This item rates behaviour, not appearance.

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Community Participation Questions for the person close to the subject:

Occupational

1. Is the subject still working? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A
If not applicable, proceed to item 4
If yes, proceed to item 3
If no, proceed to item 2
2. Did memory or thinking problems contribute to the subject's decision to retire? (Question 4 is next) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ D/K
3. Does the subject have significant difficulty in his/her job because of problems with memory or thinking?
☐ Rarely or Never ☐ Sometimes ☐ Usually ☐ Don't Know

Social life

4. Did he/she ever drive a car? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Does the subject drive a car now? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If no, is this because of memory or thinking problems? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. If he/she is still driving, are there problems or risks because of poor thinking? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- *6. Is he/she able to independently shop for needs?
☐ Rarely or Never (Needs to be accompanied on any shopping trip) ☐ Sometimes (Shops for limited number of items; buys duplicate items or forgets needed items) ☐ Usually ☐ Don't Know
7. Is he/she able to independently carry out activities outside the home?
☐ Rarely or Never (Generally unable to perform activities without help) ☐ Sometimes (Limited and/or routine, e.g., superficial participation in church or meetings; going to the hairdresser's) ☐ Usually (Meaningful participation in activities, e.g., voting) ☐ Don't Know
8. Is he/she taken to social functions outside a family home?
If no, why not? _____ ☐ Yes ☐ No
9. Would a casual observer of the subject's behaviour think the subject was ill? ☐ Yes ☐ No
10. If in nursing home, does he/she participate appropriately in social functions (thinking)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

IMPORTANT:

Is there enough information available to rate the subject's level of impairment in community participation?

If not, please probe further.

Community Participation: Such as going to church, visiting with friends or family, political activities, professional organisations such as associations of lawyers, other professional groups, social clubs, service organisations, educational programmes.

***Please add notes if needed to clarify subject's level of functioning in this area.**

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

Questions on Housework and Hobbies for the person close to the subject:

- 1a. What changes have occurred in his/her abilities to perform household tasks? _____

- 1b. What can he/she still do well? _____

- 2a. What changes have occurred in his/her abilities to perform hobbies? _____

- 2b. What can he/she still do well? _____

3. If in nursing home, what can he/she no longer do well (Housework and Hobbies)? _____

Everyday Activities (the Dementia Scale of Blessed):

- | | No Loss | | Severe Loss |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----|-------------|
| 4. Ability to perform household tasks | 0 | 0.5 | 1 |
- Please describe: _____

5. Is he/she able to perform household tasks at the level of:
(Pick one. The person close to the subject does not need to be asked directly).

- ☐ No meaningful function.
(Performs simple activities, such as making a bed, only with much supervision)
- ☐ Functions in limited activities only.
(With some supervision, washes dishes with acceptable cleanliness; sets table)
- ☐ Functions independently in some activities.
(Operates appliances, such as a vacuum cleaner; prepares simple meals)
- ☐ Functions in usual activities but not at usual level.
- ☐ Normal function in usual activities.

IMPORTANT:

Is there enough information available to rate the subject's level of impairment in HOME & HOBBIES?

If not, please probe further.

Household Tasks: Such as cooking, laundry, cleaning, grocery shopping, taking out the rubbish, gardening, and basic home care.

Hobbies: Sewing, painting, handcrafts, reading, entertaining, photography, gardening, going to theatre or symphony, woodworking, participation in sports.

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

Personal Care Questions for the person close to the subject:

*What is your estimate of his/her mental ability in the following areas:

	Unaided	Occasionally misplaced buttons, etc.	Wrong sequence, commonly forgotten items	Unable to dress
A. Dressing (the Dementia Scale of Blessed)	0	1	2	3
	Unaided	Needs prompting	Sometimes needs help	Always or nearly always needs help
B. Washing, grooming	0	1	2	3
	Cleanly; proper utensils	Messily; spoon	Simple solids	Has to be fed completely
C. Eating habits	0	1	2	3
	Normal complete control	Occasionally wets bed	Frequently wets bed	Doubly incontinent
D. Control of bladder and bowel (the Dementia Scale of Blessed)	0	1	2	3

* A box-score of 1 can be considered if the subject's personal care is improved compared with before, even if they do not receive prompting.

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

Memory Questions for Subject:

- Do you have problems with memory or thinking? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- A few moments ago your (spouse, etc.) told me a few recent experiences you had. Will you tell me something about those? (Prompt for details, if needed such as location of the event, time of day, participants, how long the event was, when it ended and how the subject or other participants got there).

	Within 1 week
1.0 – Largely correct	_____
0.5	_____
0.0 – Largely incorrect	_____
	Within 1 month
1.0 – Largely correct	_____
0.5	_____
0.0 – Largely incorrect	_____

- I will give you a name and address to remember for a few minutes. Repeat this name and address after me: (Repeat until the phrase is correctly repeated or to a maximum of three trials).

Elements	1	2	3	4	5
	John	Brown,	42	Queen Street,	Auckland
	John	Brown,	42	Queen Street,	Auckland
	John	Brown,	42	Queen Street,	Auckland

(Underline elements repeated correctly in each trial).

- When were you born? _____
- Where were you born? _____
- What was the last school you attended?
Name _____
Town/City _____ Highest level achieved _____
- What was your main occupation/job (or spouse if not employed)? _____
- What was your last major job (or spouse if not employed)? _____
- When did you (or spouse) retire and why? _____

- Repeat the name and address I asked you to remember:

Elements	1	2	3	4	5
	John	Brown,	42	Queen Street,	Auckland

(Underline elements repeated correctly).

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

Orientation Questions for Subject:

Record the subject's answer verbatim for each question

1. What is the date today?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

2. What day of the week is it?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

3. What is the month?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

4. What is the year?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

5. What is the name of this place?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

6. What town or city are we in?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

7. What time is it?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

8. Does the subject know who the person close to the subject is
(in your judgment)?

☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

Clinical Dementia Rating Worksheet

Judgment and Problem Solving Questions for Subject:

Instructions: If initial response by subject does not merit a grade 0, press the matter to identify the subject's best understanding of the problem. Circle nearest response.

Similarities:

Example: "How are a pencil and pen alike? (writing instruments)"

How are these things alike?" Subject's Response

1. carrot.....cauliflower _____
(0 = vegetables)
(1 = edible foods, living things, can be cooked, etc.)
(2 = answers not pertinent; differences; buy them)
2. desk.....bookcase _____
(0 = furniture, office furniture; both hold books)
(1 = wooden, legs)
(2 = not pertinent, differences)

Differences:

Example: "What is the difference between sugar and vinegar? (sweet vs. sour)"

What is the difference between these things?"

3. lie.....mistake _____
(0 = one deliberate, one unintentional)
(1 = one bad the other good – or explains only one)
(2 = anything else, similarities)
4. river.....canal (lake.....dam) _____
(0 = natural - artificial)
(2 = anything else)

Calculations:

5. How many 5 cent pieces in a dollar? ☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect
6. How many 20 cent pieces in \$5.40? ☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect
7. Subtract 3 from 20 and keep subtracting 3 from each new number all the way down. ☐ Correct ☐ Incorrect

Judgment:

8. Upon arriving in a strange city, how would you locate a friend that you wished to see?
(0 = try the telephone book, go to the city council for a directory; call a mutual friend)
(1 = call the police, call directory service (usually will not give address))
(2 = no clear response)
9. Subject's assessment of disability and social position and understanding of why he/she is present at the examination (perhaps already mentioned, but make your own judgment here):
☐ Good Insight ☐ Partial Insight ☐ Little Insight

CLINICAL DEMENTIA RATING (CDR)

CLINICAL DEMENTIA RATING (CDR):	0	0.5	1	2	3
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	Impairment				
	None 0	Questionable 0.5	Mild 1	Moderate 2	Severe 3
Memory	No memory loss or slight inconsistent forgetfulness	Consistent slight forgetfulness; partial recollection of events; "benign" forgetfulness	Moderate memory loss; more marked for recent events; defect interferes with everyday activities	Severe memory loss; only highly learned material retained; new material rapidly lost	Severe memory loss; only fragments remain
Orientation	Fully oriented	Fully oriented except for slight difficulty with time relationships	Moderate difficulty with time relationships; oriented for place at examination; may have geographic disorientation elsewhere	Severe difficulty with time relationships; usually disoriented to time, often to place	Oriented to person only
Judgment & Problem Solving	Solves everyday problems & handles business & financial affairs well; judgment good in relation to past performance	Slight impairment in solving problems, similarities, and differences	Moderate difficulty in handling problems, similarities, and differences; social judgment usually maintained	Severely impaired in handling problems, similarities, and differences; social judgment usually impaired	Unable to make judgments or solve problems
Community Affairs	Independent function at usual level in job, shopping, volunteer and social groups	Slight impairment in these activities	Unable to function independently at these activities although may still be engaged in some; appears normal at first glance	No possibility of independent function outside home Appears well enough to be taken to functions outside a family home	
Home and Hobbies	Life at home, hobbies, and intellectual interests well maintained	Life at home, hobbies, and intellectual interests slightly impaired	Mild but definite impairment of function at home; more difficult tasks abandoned; more complicated hobbies and interests abandoned	Only simple tasks preserved; very restricted interests, poorly maintained	No significant ability to do things in home
Personal Care	Fully capable of self-care		Needs prompting	Requires assistance in dressing, hygiene, keeping of personal belongings	Requires much help with personal care; frequent incontinence

Score only as decline from previous usual level due to cognitive loss, not impairment due to other factors.