

Screening Protocol for Cognitive Impairment

Say:

We know many older persons have concerns about their memory. Have you had any concerns? Because we know this is often a worry, we are giving everyone a simple screening test.

I. THREE WORD RECALL

First, I am going to say three words that I want you to remember. I'm going to say all three and then I'd like you to say them back:

Telephone, umbrella, flowers.

After the person has repeated them successfully (give up to three tries), say: Now remember them because I will ask you again.

Next, hand them a blank piece of paper (or the prepared form) and say now, I would like you to draw the face of a clock.

II. CLOCK DRAWING

Draw a large face and put all the numbers on it. Make it large. After the face is drawn, say: Now, draw the hands, pointing at 20 minutes before 4 o'clock. Instructions may be repeated or rephrased, but no other help should be given.

(0-7) _____

WHEN THE CLOCK DRAWING IS COMPLETE, ASK THE PATIENT TO RECALL THE THREE WORDS. One point for each word recalled

(0-3) _____

III. CATEGORY FLUENCY

Say: Now, when I tell you to start, please tell me as many kinds of animals as you can think of in one minute. OK? Begin (Start timing immediately after you tell the person to begin. End the task by saying) OK, That's good.

(15) _____

Tell the person what the test indicates:

No need for concern and we'll repeat it every year. -You'll send a copy to the doctor.

This brief screen suggests there may be some problem with memory (or cognitive function). You'd like to share the results with the doctor who will want to ask some additional questions.