

Mental Status Examination Checklist

Instructions: *Italicized information indicates what the student should be verbalizing.*

	Performed	Verbalized
<i>Washes hands FIRST and dons appropriate personal protective equipment.</i>	Y / N	
<i>Introduces self to patient using first and last name, including role.</i>	Y / N	
Appearance and Behavior; assess throughout the interview		
1. Level of consciousness	Y / N	Y / N
2. Posture and motor behavior	Y / N	Y / N
3. Dress, grooming, and personal hygiene	Y / N	Y / N
4. Facial expression	Y / N	Y / N
5. Manner, affect, and relationship to persons and things	Y / N	Y / N
Speech and Language		
1. Quantity, rate, volume, fluency, articulation of words		Y / N
2. Evaluation of aphasia		Y / N
Mood and Affect		
1. Notes anger, indifference, sadness, contentment, joy, euphoria, anxiety		Y / N
Thoughts and Perceptions		
1. Thought processes: logic, relevance, organization and coherence (<i>These are revealed in patient's words and speech throughout the interview.</i>)		Y / N
2. Thought content: compulsions, obsessions, phobias, anxieties		Y / N
3. Perception: delusions, hallucinations		Y / N
4. Insight and judgment (<i>Are decisions and actions based on reality?</i>)		Y / N
Cognitive Functions		
1. Orientation: time, place, person	Y / N	
2. Attention: digit span, serial 7s, spelling "world" backward (D-L-R-O-W)	Y / N	
3. Memory: remote (<i>birthdays, SSN</i>), recent (<i>today's weather</i>), new learning ability (<i>Give three words and have patient repeat them after 3–5 minutes.</i>)	Y / N	
Higher Cognitive Functions		
1. Information and vocabulary	Y / N	Y / N
2. Calculating ability: addition, multiplication	Y / N	Y / N
3. Abstract thinking: proverbs, similarities	Y / N	Y / N
4. Constructional ability: geometric figures, clock (<i>Have patient copy a figure or draw a clock.</i>)	Y / N	Y / N

Adapted from Albany Medical College, Center for Physician Assistant Studies | Bickley: *Bates' Guide to Physical Examination and History Taking*, Thirteenth Edition. Copyright © 2021 Wolters Kluwer Health