

K-140 Mental Status Assessment

A mental status assessment evaluates the client's orientation, memory, use of language, cognitive function, and level of consciousness. A major focus of the evaluation is to identify the client's strength and ability to interact with others in carrying out the home care plan.

Purpose

Assess client emotional motor and cognitive function.

Applies To

Registered Nurses

Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses

Other (*Identify*): _____

Equipment/Supplies

- Health assessment forms.
- Pen and pencil.
- Blank sheet of paper.
- MiniMental Exam.
- Glasgow Coma Scale

Procedure

1. Assess the client level of consciousness (LOC).
2. Objectively measure LOC (e.g. Glasgow Coma Scale).
3. Screen for dementia and delirium (e.g. MiniMental State Examination).
4. Have client interpret meaning of proverb such as “people who live in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones.” Individual with impaired mentation will provide a literal translation or simply repeat the sentence.

Related Policies

None

Policy History

Approval Date	11/1/2009
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