


Mini Mental Status Examination

The "Mini" Mental Status Exam is a quick way to evaluate cognitive function. It is often used to screen for dementia or monitor its progression. [See Page 120 in *Bates A Guide to Physical Examination, 7th Ed*]

Folstein Mini Mental Status Examination			
Task	Instructions	Scoring	
Date Orientation	"Tell me the date?" Ask for omitted items.	One point each for year, season, date, day of week, and month	5
Place Orientation	"Where are you?" Ask for omitted items.	One point each for state, county, town, building, and floor or room	5
Register 3 Objects	Name three objects slowly and clearly. Ask the patient to repeat them.	One point for each item correctly repeated	3
Serial Sevens	Ask the patient to count backwards from 100 by 7. Stop after five answers. (Or ask them to spell "world" backwards.)	One point for each correct answer (or letter)	5
Recall 3 Objects	Ask the patient to recall the objects mentioned above.	One point for each item correctly remembered	3
Naming	Point to your watch and ask the patient "what is this?" Repeat with a pencil.	One point for each correct answer	2
Repeating a Phrase	Ask the patient to say "no ifs, ands, or buts."	One point if successful on first try	1
Verbal Commands	Give the patient a plain piece of paper and say "Take this paper in your right hand, fold it in half, and put it on the floor."	One point for each correct action	3
Written Commands	Show the patient a piece of paper with "CLOSE YOUR EYES" printed on it.	One point if the patient's eyes close	1
Writing	Ask the patient to write a sentence.	One point if sentence has a subject, a verb, and makes sense	1
Drawing	 Ask the patient to copy a pair of intersecting pentagons onto a piece of paper.	One point if the figure has ten corners and two intersecting lines	1
Scoring	A score of 24 or above is considered normal.		30

[Adapted from Folstein et al, Mini Mental State, J PSYCH RES 12:196-198 \(1975\)](#)