

Abbreviated Mental Test Score

The abbreviated mental test score (AMTS) was introduced by Hodkinson in 1972 to rapidly assess elderly patients for the possibility of dementia

The following questions are put to the patient. Each question correctly answered scores one point:

1. What is your age?
2. What is the time to the nearest hour?
3. Give the patient an address, and ask him or her to repeat it at the end of the test
e.g. 42 West Street
4. What is the year?
5. What is the name of the hospital or number of the residence where the patient is situated?
6. Can the patient recognize two persons (the doctor, nurse, home help, etc.)?
7. What is your date of birth? (day and month sufficient)
8. In what year did World War 1 begin?
9. Name the present monarch/prime minister/president.
10. Count backwards from 20 down to 1.

A score of 6 or less suggests delirium or dementia, although further tests are necessary to confirm the diagnosis.

References:

Hodkinson, HM (1972). "Evaluation of a mental test score for assessment of mental impairment in the elderly." *Age and Ageing* 1 (4): 233-8. PMID 4669880. <http://ageing.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/reprint/1/4/233>.