

# Accuracy of the Clock Drawing Test for Detecting Dementia in a Multicultural Sample of Elderly Australian Patients

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**Key Words:**

Dementia, CALD, Australia, Assessment

**Research aim:**

To assess the accuracy of clock drawing for detecting dementia in a multicultural, non-English-speaking-background population.

**Results/Conclusion:**

Using ROC curve analysis, there was no significant difference between the different clock scoring methods (area under the curve varied from 0.60 to 0.72). The most sensitive was the Mendez scoring method (98%), with a specificity of 16%. Specificity above 50% was found only for the Wolf-Klein method, with an intermediate sensitivity of 78%. Conclusions: There were no significant differences in the clock scoring methods used to detect dementia. Performance of the clock drawing test was modest at best with low levels of specificity across all methods.

**Implications:**

Scored according to these methods, clock drawing was not a useful predictor of dementia in our multicultural population.

**Cultural Group(s):**

Australia, non-English speaking backgrounds

**Location of study:**

New South Wales (Sydney)

**Age group:**

Mean age of 78

**Number included in study:**

93 consecutive new patients

**Type of participants:**

New patients to a geriatric outpatient clinic

**Research approach:**

Quantitative

**Type of data:**

Primary

**Secondary data sources used:**

**Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

Scoring was evaluated for reliability and predictive accuracy, using receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve analysis. Logistic regression analysis was used to assess the potential interaction between level of education and each of the clock scoring methods.

**Implications/ Recommendations:**

**Notes:**