

The Mini-Cog: a cognitive 'vital signs' measure for dementia screening in multi-lingual elderly

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Key Words:

dementia, culturally appropriate assessment tools

Research aim:

The Mini-Cog, a composite of three-item recall and clock drawing, was developed as a brief test for discriminating demented from non-demented persons in a community sample of culturally, linguistically, and educationally heterogeneous older adults.

Results/Conclusion:

The Mini-Cog required minimal language interpretation and training to administer, and no test forms or scoring modifications were needed to compensate for the extensive linguistic and educational heterogeneity of the sample. Validation in clinical and population-based samples is warranted, as its brevity and ease of administration suggest that the Mini-Cog might be readily incorporated into general practice and senior care settings as a routine 'cognitive vital signs' measure.

Implications:

Cultural Group(s):

Non-English speakers

Location of study:

United States

Age group:

older adults

Number included in study:

249

Type of participants:

demented (n=129) and non-demented (n=120) persons in a community sample of culturally, linguistically, and educationally heterogeneous older adults. Includes 124 non-English speakers

Research approach:

Quantitative

Type of data:

Primary

Secondary data sources used:

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: