

# The Validity of the Rowland Universal Dementia Assessment Scale (RUDAS) in a Multicultural Cohort of Community-dwelling Older Persons With Early Dementia

**Author/s:** Basic, David Rowland, Jeffrey T. Conforti, David A. Vratsidis, Freda Hill, Keith LoGiudice, Dina Harry, Jan M. Lucero, Katherine Prowse, Robert J. | **Year:** 2009 | **Publication type:** Journal article | **Peer reviewed:** | **Topic area/s:** Dementia

**Reference:** Basic, D., J. T. Rowland, D. A. Conforti, F. Vratsidis, K. Hill, D. LoGiudice, J. M. Harry, K. Lucero and R. J. Prowse (2009). "The Validity of the Rowland Universal Dementia Assessment Scale (RUDAS) in a Multicultural Cohort of Community-dwelling Older Persons With Early Dementia." *Alzheimer Disease & Associated Disorders* April/June 23(2): 124-129.

**Key Words:**

RUDAS, dementia, assessment tools, culturally appropriate care

**Research aim:**

The Validity of the Rowland Universal Dementia Assessment Scale (RUDAS) in a Multicultural Cohort of Community-dwelling Older Persons With Early Dementia. It can be directly translated to other languages, without the need to change the structure or the format of any item. This project investigated how RUDAS performs when detecting dementia and cognitive impairment for different groups.

**Results/Conclusion:**

In the primary analysis (normal subjects vs. those with definite dementia), the RUDAS accurately identified dementia, with an area under the receiver operating characteristic curve of 0.94 (95% confidence interval, 0.88-0.97); at the published cut point of less than 23/30, the positive likelihood ratio (LR) for dementia diagnosis was 8.77, and the negative likelihood ratio was 0.14. Additional analyses showed that the RUDAS performed less well when subjects with cognitive impairment (not dementia) were included. In all logistic regression models, the RUDAS was an independent predictor of dementia (odds ratio 0.64, 95% confidence interval, 0.52-0.79, primary analysis model), after adjusting for age, sex, years of education, and cultural diversity, none of which were independent predictors.

**Implications:**

Further studies are needed across the full spectrum of early dementia syndromes, and in additional ethnic minority groups.

**Cultural Group(s):**

CALD

**Location of study:**

Melbourne, Adelaide

**Age group:**

mean age 77

**Number included in study:**

151

**Type of participants:**

culturally diverse community-dwelling subjects of mean age 77 years

**Research approach:**

**Type of data:**

**Secondary data sources used:**

**Specific scales or analytical techniques used:**

**Implications/ Recommendations:**

**Notes:**