St. Louis University Mental Status Examination (SLUMS Exam)

Patient Name		Age
Level of Education	Is the patient alert?	

	Score	
1. What day of the week is it? (score 1)		
2. What is the year? (score 1)		
3. What state are we in? (score 1)		
4. Please remember these five objects. I will ask you what they are later.ApplePenTieHouseCar		
5. You have \$100 and you go to the store and buy a dozen apples for \$3 and a tricycle for \$20.		
How much did you spend? (score 1) How much do you have left? (score 2)	/1 /2	
6. Please name as many animals as you can in one minute.0-4 animals (score 0)10-14 animals (score 2)5-9 animals (score 1)15+ animals (score 3)	/3	
7. What were the five objects I asked you to remember? (score 1 each)		
8. I am going to give you a series of numbers, and I would like you to give them to me backward. For example, if I say 42, you would say 24.87 (score 0)648 (score 1)8537 (score 1)		
9. The circle on your paper is a clock face. Please put in the hour markers and the time at 10 minutes to 11 o'clock.Hour markers OK (score 2) Time correct (score 2)	/4	
10. Please look at the set of three shapes.Please place an X in the triangle. (score 1) Which figure is the largest? (score 1)		
11. I am going to tell you a story. Please listen carefully because afterward, I will ask you some questions about it. Jill was a very successful stockbroker. She made a lot of money in the stock market. She then met Jack, a devastatingly handsome man. She married him and had three children. They lived in Chicago. She then stopped work and stayed home to bring up her children. When they were teenagers, she went back to work. She and Jack lived happily ever after.		
a. What was the female's name?(score 2)c. What work did she do? (score 2)b. When did she go back to work?(score 2)d. What state did she live in? (score 2)	/8	
Total Score	/30	

Clinician Signature	Date	Time
High School Education	Scoring	Less than High School Education
27-30	Normal	
21-26 Mild Neurocognitive Disorder		
	Dementia	

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SH Tariq, N Tumosa, JT Chibnall, HM Perry III, and JE Morley. The Saint Louis University Mental Status (SLUMS) Examination for detecting mild cognitive impairment and dementia is more sensitive than the Mini-Mental Status Examination (MMSE) - A pilot study. Am J Geriatr Psych 14:900-10, 2006. For more information, e-mail aging@slu.edu.

St. Louis University Mental Status Examination - Questions 9 and 10





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St. Louis University Mental Status Examination - Instructions p. 1/2

The SLUMS Exam screens individuals for cognitive deficits and identifies changes in cognition over time. Administration should be conducted privately and in the examinee's primary language. Be prepared with the items you need to complete the exam. You will need a watch with a second hand on it.

1. Complete patient demographics at the top of the page and fill out your name and the date at the bottom.

2. Record the number of years the patient attended school. If the patient obtained an Associates, Bachelor's, Master's or Doctorate degree, note the degree achieved, not the years of school attended.

3. Determine if the patient is alert. Do not answer "yes" or "no," but indicate level of alertness. Alert indicates that the individual is fully awake and able to focus. Other descriptors include: drowsy, confused, distractible, inattentive, preoccupied.

4. Read the questions aloud clearly and slowly to the examinee. It is not usually necessary to speak loudly, but it is necessary to speak slowly.

5. Begin by asking the patient something similar to the following: "Do you have any trouble with your memory?" "May I ask you some questions about your memory?" "I'd like to see how good your memory is by asking you some questions." You may need to reassure patients by telling them that this is not a test that they can fail, but merely a tool, much like a thermometer that takes temperature is a tool. This tool checks for the amount of memory they have. Then begin to administer the exam questions.

6. Score the questions as indicated on the examination.

7. On question #4, read the statement as listed on the exam. Ask the patient to repeat each of the five objects (Apple, Pen, Tie, House, Car) that you recite to make sure that the patient heard and understood what you said. Repeat them as many times as it takes for the patient to repeat them back to you correctly.

8. On question #5, make sure the patient is focused on you prior to reciting the information. Obtain an answer for the first part of the question ("How much did you spend") before moving on to part two ("How much do you have left?"). Do not prompt or give hints, but do give ample time to the patient to answer the questions. If the patient asks you to repeat the question, you may do so once.

9. Redirect the patient's attention back to you, if necessary, to answer question #6. Give them one minute to complete the question. Be sure to time them.

10. Continue with the exam questions in the order that they are listed.

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Clinician Resources

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11. On question #8, state each number digit by digit: 87 is thus said eight, seven, 649 is six, four, nine, and 8537 is eight, five, three, seven.

12. On question #9, either draw a large circle on the back of the exam form or give the patient a separate piece of paper with a larger circle printed on it and attach it to the original exam form. When scoring, give full credit for either all 12 numbers or all 12 ticks. If the patient puts only 4 ticks on the circle, prompt them once to put numbers next to those ticks (12, 3, 6, and 9) for full credit. When scoring the correct time, make sure the hour hand is shorter than the minute hand, that the minute hand points at the 10, and that the hour hand points at the 11.

13. You may also provide a separate sheet with larger examples of the forms listed on question #10 for those with vision impairment. This sheet should be created by enlarging the figures on the examination form and can also be attached to the original form.

14. Read question #11 as written, and provide ample time to answer each question. Do not repeat the story, but do make sure they are paying attention the first time you read it to them. Do not prompt or give hints. The answer of Chicago as the state she lives in gets no credit but you may prompt them once by repeating the question.

15. Score the examination as listed at the bottom of the page, circling the level based on the score.

16. Sign and date the form.

17. Upon Completion of the exam: Review the exam with the primary medical provider and place the exam and any worksheets in the patient's record.

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