

Dementia and Intellectual Disability Screening Questionnaire

Rates of dementia in people with an intellectual disability are thought to be higher and occur at a younger age than in the general population. However, rates of Alzheimer's Disease in people with Down's syndrome are increased even further, and this dementia can occur up to 3 decades earlier than in other individuals; rates of Alzheimer's Disease in this population start to rise after the age of around 40. Thus it is important that people with Down's syndrome are regularly screened for possible dementia to ensure early detection and timely treatment.

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPARING HOW THE PERSON IS NOW TO HOW THEY WERE AT THEIR BEST.

Has there been a significant deterioration in the following:

Memory

- | | |
|---|--------|
| Remembering the names of close relatives or support staff? | YES/NO |
| Remembering what has been said to them in the last 5 minutes? | YES/NO |
| Remembering that they have just eaten (i.e. asking for more food straight after a meal) | YES/NO |

Orientation

- | | |
|--|--------|
| Finding their way around their home? | YES/NO |
| Remembering what day it is or the time of day? | YES/NO |
| Are they getting up at night and appearing confused? | YES/NO |

Physical Health

- | | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Their mobility? | YES/NO |
|-----------------|--------|

Communication

- | | |
|---|--------|
| Their ability or desire to communicate? | YES/NO |
| Following simple instructions? | YES/NO |
| Keeping up with ordinary conversations? | YES/NO |

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Everyday Skills

- Doing simple housework chores or making a hot drink? YES/NO
- Ability to dress, e.g. getting things back to front? YES/NO
- Difficulties with eating and drinking? YES/NO

Perception

- Recognising or naming everyday objects? YES/NO
- Visual perception (e.g. Overstepping at curbs or over door steps)? YES/NO

OTHER QUESTIONS:

- Have they recently been diagnosed or been suspected of having epilepsy? YES/NO
- Would you describe them as emotionally flat or lack enthusiasm? YES/NO
- Have there been any changes in behaviour e.g. uncharacteristic bouts of short temper or aggression? YES/NO
- Have there been any changes to their modesty or inhibitions YES/NO
- How long has this deterioration been occurring?months

If these changes have occurred suddenly then consider an organic cause

If the deterioration has occurred in a stepwise fashion then consider cerebrovascular dementia

If there has been significant deterioration in several different areas of functioning then consider performing a 'dementia screen' of blood tests and referral to LD team (SPA 0303 1234000)