

AMSIT

Appearance, Behavior, and Speech

PHYSICAL APPEARANCE: apparent age, sex, ethnicity, and other identifying features; a careful description of the patient's dress and behavior

MANNER OF RELATING TO EXAMINER: placating, negativistic, seductive, trusting, understanding of examiner's expectations, motivation to work with examiner, etc.

PSYCHOMOTOR ACTIVITY: increased, decreased, or neither increased nor decreased

BEHAVIORAL EVIDENCE OF EMOTION: tremulousness, perspiration, tears/crying, clinched fist, turned-down mouth, wrinkled brow, evidence of anxiety, etc.

REPETITIOUS ACTIVITIES: mannerisms, gestures, stereotypy, waxy flexibility, echopraxia, compulsive performance of repetitious acts

DISTURBANCE OF ATTENTION: distractibility, self-absorption

SPEECH: volume, rate (pressured or slowed), clarity, spontaneity; mutism, word salad, perseveration, echolalia, neologisms, clang speech, verbigeration

Mood and Affect

MOOD: position on depression-elation continuum; angry, fearful, or anxious mood

AFFECT: range, intensity, lability, appropriateness to immediate thought

Sensorium

ORIENTATION: for person, time and place

MEMORY: recent and remote

CONCENTRATION

CALCULATING ABILITY: (valid only if patient is adequately educated)

Intellectual Function

estimate current level of function as above average, average, or below average based on general fund of information, vocabulary, and complexity of concepts

Thought

COHERENCE

LOGIC

GOAL DIRECTEDNESS: tangential or circumstantial thought

ASSOCIATIONS: loose associations, blocking, flight of ideas

PERCEPTIONS: current hallucinations, illusions, depersonalization, distortion of body image

DELUSIONS currently held

CONTENT, OTHER: noteworthy memories, other thoughts, and feelings; poverty of thought; suicidal or homicidal ideation/intent; (may include some past symptoms)

JUDGMENT

ABSTRACTING ABILITY: similarities more reliable than proverbs

INSIGHT: both how much understanding patient has about his/her condition and limitations of insight