

Assessment of Cognition and Communication in Advanced Dementia

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Outline

- Benefits of Assessment
- Optimizing Client Participation
- Domains of Cognition and Communication
 - Clinical Presentation
 - How to assess
 - Compensatory Strategies

Benefits of Assessment

- Assessment ≠ Test
- Identifying preserved abilities
- “JUST RIGHT” level of support

The Goldilocks Dilemma



Optimizing Client Participation

- Techniques
- Informal Assessment

Assessment Tools

- **Severe Impairment Battery**
(Swihart, Boller, Saxton, McGonigie, 1993)
- **Severe Impairment Rating Scale**
(Rabins and Steele, 1996)
- **Allen Cognitive Levels Screen**
(Allen, Austin, David, Earhart, McCraith, & Riska-Williams, 2007)
- **Functional Linguistic Communication Inventory**
(Bayles and Tomoeda, 1994)



Domains to Assess

- Background
- Sensory
- Orientation
- Memory
- Attention
- Praxis
- Executive Function
- Comprehension
- Expression
(Verbal and Nonverbal)
- Reading/Writing
- Social/Pragmatics