



The Alzheimer's Questionnaire (AQ[®])

How to score: Pick one answer to each of the 21 questions (yes or no). Then add up all the points to arrive at a final score. Note to score a "YES" response only to a decline in cognition and functional level compared to previous level.

MEMORY		Yes	No
1	Does your loved one have memory loss?	1	0
2	If so, is their memory worse than a few years ago?	1	0
3	Does the patient repeat questions OR statements OR stories in the same day?	2	0
4	Have you had to take over tracking events OR appointments? OR Does the patient forget appointments?	1	0
5	Does the patient misplace items more than once a month? OR Does the patient misplace objects so that he or she cannot find them?	1	0
6	Does the patient suspect others are moving, hiding or stealing items when they cannot find them?	1	0
ORIENTATION			
7	Does the patient frequently have trouble knowing the day, date, month, year, time? OR Does the patient have to use cues like the newspaper or the calendar to know the day and date more than once a day?	2	0
8	Does the patient become disoriented in unfamiliar places?	1	0
9	Does the patient become more confused outside the home or when traveling?	1	0
FUNCTIONAL ABILITY			
10	Excluding physical limitations (e.g., tremor, hemiparesis, etc) does the patient have trouble handling money (tips, calculating change?)	1	0
11	Excluding physical limitations (e.g., tremor, hemiparesis, etc), does the patient have trouble paying bills or doing finances OR Are family members taking over finances because of concerns about ability?	2	0
12	Does the patient have trouble remembering to take medications or tracking medications taken?	1	0
13	Is the patient having difficulty driving? OR Are you concerned about the patient's driving? OR Has the patient stopped driving for reasons other than physical limitations?	1	0
14	Is the patient having trouble using appliances (e.g. microwave, oven, stove, remote control, telephone, alarm clock)?	1	0
15	Excluding physical limitations, is the patient having difficulty in completing home repair or other home related tasks (housekeeping)	1	0
16	Excluding physical limitations, has the patient given up or significantly reduced activities such as golfing, dancing, exercising, or crafts?	1	0
VISUOSPATIAL			
17	Is the patient getting lost in familiar surroundings (own neighborhood)?	2	0
18	Does the patient have a decreased sense of direction?	1	0
LANGUAGE			
19	Does the patient have trouble finding words other than names?	1	0
20	Does the patient confuse names of family members or friends?	2	0
21	Does the patient have difficulty recognizing people familiar to him/her?	2	0

Final Score: _____

The AQ[®] Administration and Scoring Guidelines

The AQ[®] should be administered by a clinician to a collateral source that knows the patient well. There are no specific qualifications or credentials needed to administer the AQ[®].

Responses to the AQ[®] items should reflect the patient's current cognitive and functional status and should be rated compared to their pre-morbid level of function.

If the collateral source is unable to provide a clear yes/no response to the question, the clinician should query until a clear answer is obtained. If the collateral source states that they have always had difficulty with an item (e.g., sense of direction), the clinician should ask whether there has been a significant change from their previous level of functioning for that item. If an item does not apply to the patient (e.g. has never driven) then the item should be scored as a zero. For items with multiple symptoms (e.g., Does the patient repeat questions OR statements OR stories in the same day?) the presence of only one symptom would require the clinician to score the item as 'yes'.

The AQ[®] total score is based on the sum of points for items with a yes response. The range of possible scores is 0 to 27.

Score interpretation:

A score of four points or less is regarded as normal.

A score between five and 14 points inclusive suggests mild cognitive impairment.

A score of 15 or more points suggests dementia.

The AQ[®] is available for use in British Columbia with permission from Banner Sun Health Research Institute, Cleo Roberts Center for Clinical Research, 10515 W. Santa Fe Dr. Sun City, AZ 85351 Phone: 623 832-6500 Fax: 623 832-6504.