



What is the HDS

Hierarchic Dementia Scale (HDS) is an assessment tool which is easily administered in 45 minutes. It is sensitive to a client's cognitive abilities and limitations and does not rely just on language. The HDS has good "test- no-test" and "inter-intra" reliability.

The HDS is a reversed Piagetian model of hierarchical decline of cognitive function. It covers the following cognitive functions:

1. orientating,
2. prefrontal reflexes,
3. ideomotor praxis,
4. looking praxis,
5. ideational praxis,
6. denomination,
7. comprehension,
8. registration,
9. gnosis,
10. reading,
11. orientation,
12. construction,
13. concentration,
14. calculation,
15. drawing,
16. motor,
17. remote memory,
18. writing similarities
19. recent memory.

It uses a global score of all functions as well as a graphical profile against each function. The assessment involves the direct testing of the person.

HDS Kits

McCusker learning and Development provides Kits to undertake these assessments. They include the following:

- Kit – including:
 - shapes puzzle
 - 50 forms
 - manual.
- Hammer
- Pair of Scissors
- Candle Dessert
- Spoon Nail Button
- 2 x Coloured Pencils
- Lead Pencil
- Whistle
- Comb
- Box of Matches (If kit is to be posted matches are not included.)

Additional Forms are available.

An Australian Manual explaining further use of material is also available.