

Assessment of Basic Care for the Demented (ABCD)

Overview: The Assessment of Basic Care for the Demented (ABCD) is a measure of the assistance required by a demented person for basic activities of daily living (ADL). It may be used by family members or health care providers. It can be used to monitor a patient over time.

Activities of daily living:

- (1) ability to move to the right place when necessary
- (2) dressing
- (3) bathing
- (4) eating
- (5) personal hygiene
- (6) voiding

Subscales during the past month:

- (1) difficulty with activity
- (2) reason for difficulty with the activity

Difficulty Subscale	Points
no help needed	3
occasional and/or partial help	2
total help and not resistant	1
total help but resistant	0

For each measure (except for voiding) scored 0 to 2 (help needed) the apparent reason is coded.

Reason for Difficulty Subscale	Category
physical disability	A
loss of motivation fails to use tools etc.	B
Both	C

total score = SUM(points for all 6 items)

Interpretation:

- minimum score: 0
- maximum: 18
- The higher the score the greater the independence.

References:

Asada T Kariya T et al. Predictors of fall-related injuries among community-dwelling elderly people with dementia. Age and Ageing. 1996; 25: 22-28. (Appendix page 27).