Neuropsychiatric Inventory

Comprehensive Assessment of Psychopathology in Patients with Dementia

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INTRODUCTION

The Neuropsychiatric Inventory (NPI) was developed to provide a means of assessing neuropsychiatric symptoms and psychopathology of patients with Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative disorders. The NPI has been used to characterize the neuropsychiatric symptom profiles in a variety of neurological diseases. It has proven to be sensitive to change and has been employed to capture treatment related behavioral changes in patients receiving cholinesterase inhibitors, antipsychotic agents, melatonin and a variety of other antidementia and psychotropic compounds. The NPI is available in many languages, has been shown to be reliable in cross-cultural studies, and allows study of neuropsychiatric symptoms of dementia patients in different countries and cultures.

The NPI is valid and reliable. It has been integrated into studies with neuroimaging techniques (magnetic resonance imaging, single photon emission computed tomography, and positron emission tomography) to help explicate the neuroimaging correlates of behavioral changes in patients with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and to explore the relationship between treatment-related changes in regional brain function and altered behavior. Autopsy studies provide further convergent validity of the NPI.

This manual provides administration and scoring instructions for the NPI. It contains the standardized script for administering the questions to be asked of patients when performing the NPI. The background articles that establish the psychometric properties of the NPI and of the related caregiver distress scale are referenced. Master copies of the worksheets and scoring summaries that can be copied for your convenience are provided. This material constitutes the administration manual for the NPI.

A version of the NPI has been developed and validated for use in nursing homes (the NPI-NH), where information is collected from professional caregivers. The NPI-Questionnaire (NPI-Q) version of the NPI has been developed and cross-validated with the standard NPI to provide a brief assessment of neuropsychiatric symptomatology in clinical practice settings.

Thank you for your interest in the NPI. I hope that these instruments and their manuals and related information prove to be helpful to you in characterizing behavioral and neuropsychiatric symptoms in your patients, understanding the distress experienced by caregivers, and following treatment related changes in behavior. Neuropsychiatric symptoms are a key manifestation of dementias, and understanding and treating them is a major advance in improving the quality of lives of patients and their caregivers.

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The purpose of the Neuropsychiatric Inventory (NPI) is to obtain information on the presence of psychopathology in patients with brain disorders. The NPI was developed for application to patients with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias, but it may be useful in the assessment of behavioral changes in other conditions. Ten behavioral and two neurovegetative areas are included in the NPI:

- Delusions
- Hallucinations
- Agitation/Aggression
- Depression/Dysphoria
- Anxiety
- Elation/Euphoria
- Apathy/Indifference
- Disinhibition
- Irritability/Lability
- Aberrant motor behavior

- Sleep and Nighttime Behavior Disorders
- Appetite and Eating Disorders

**II. Administration of the NPI**

**A. NPI Interview**

The NPI is based on responses from an informed caregiver, preferably one living with the patient. A caregiver can be defined as a person spending at least 4 hours per day at least 4 days per week with the patient and who is knowledgeable about the patient’s daytime and nighttime behaviors. If an informed observer is not available, this instrument cannot be used or must be modified. The interview is best conducted with the caregiver in the absence of the patient to facilitate an open discussion of behaviors that may be difficult to describe with the patient present. Several points should be made when you introduce the NPI interview to the caregiver:

- Purpose of the interview
- Ratings - frequency, severity, distress
- Answers apply to behaviors that are new since the onset of the disease and have been present for the past four weeks or other defined period
- Questions can usually be answered with “Yes” or “No” and responses should be brief

When beginning the inventory, say to the caregiver “These questions are designed to evaluate your (husband’s/wife’s/etc) behavior. They can usually be answered “yes” or “no” so please try to be brief in your responses.” If the caregiver lapses into elaborate responses that provide little useful information, he/she may be reminded of the need to be brief. Some of the issues raised with this scale are very emotionally disturbing to caregivers and the interviewer should reassure the caregiver that they will discuss the problems in more detail after completion of the inventory.
Questions should be asked exactly as written. Clarification should be provided if the caregiver does not understand the question. Acceptable clarifications are restatements of the questions in alternate terms.

B. Changes in Behavior

The questions pertain to changes in the patient’s behavior that have appeared since the onset of the illness. Behaviors that have been present throughout the patient’s life and have not changed in the course of the illness are not scored even if they are abnormal (e.g., anxiety, depression). Behaviors that have been present throughout life but have changed since the illness are scored (e.g., the patient has always been apathetic but there has been a notable increase in apathy during the period of inquiry).

The NPI is typically used to assess changes in the patient’s behavior that have appeared in a defined period of time (e.g., in the past four weeks or other defined interval). In some studies, the NPI may be used to address changes occurring in response to treatment or that have changed since the last clinic visit. The reliability and validity studies of the NPI were conducted using the 4-week time frame. The time frame of the question would then be revised to reflect this interest in recent changes. Emphasize to the caregiver that the questions pertain to behaviors that have appeared or changed since the onset of the illness. For example, the questions might be phrased “Since he/she began treatment with the new medications...” or “Since the dosage of _________ was increased ....”

C. Screening Questions and Subquestions

The screening question is asked to determine if the behavioral change is present or absent. If the answer to the screening question is negative, mark “No” and proceed to the next screening question without asking the subquestions. If the answer to the screening question is positive or if there are any uncertainties in the caregiver’s response or any inconsistencies between the response and other information known by the clinician (e.g., the caregiver responds negatively to the euphoria screening question but the patient appears euphoric to the clinician), the category is marked “Yes” and is explored in more depth with the subquestions. If the subquestions confirm the screening question, the severity and frequency of the behavior are determined according to the criteria provided with each behavior (below).

In some cases, the caregiver will provide a positive response to the screening question and a negative reply to all subquestions. If this happens, ask the caregiver to expand on why he/she responded affirmatively to the screen. If he/she provides information relevant to the behavioral domain but in different terms, the behavior should be scored for severity and frequency as usual. If the original affirmative response was erroneous, leading to a failure to endorse any subquestions, then the behavior is changed to “No” on the screen.

Some sections such as the questions pertaining to appetite are framed so as to capture whether there is an increase or decrease in the behavior (increased or decreased appetite or weight). If the caregiver answers “Yes” to the first member of the paired questions (such as has the patient’s weight decreased?), do not ask the second question (has the patient’s weight increased?) since the answer to the second question is contained in the answer to the first. If the caregiver answers “No” to the first member of the pair of questions, then the second question must be asked.

D. Frequency and Severity Ratings

When determining frequency and severity, use the behaviors identified by the subquestions as most aberrant. For example, if the caregiver indicates that resistive behavior is particularly problematic when you are asking the subquestions of the agitation section, then use resistive behavior to prompt judgments regarding the frequency and severity of agitation. If two behaviors are very problematic, use the frequency and severity of both behaviors to score the item. For example, if the patient has two or more types of delusions, then use the severity and the frequency of all delusional behaviors to phrase the questions regarding severity and frequency.
When assessing frequency, say to the person being interviewed “Now I want to find out how often these things (define using the description of the behaviors noted as most problematic on the subquestions) occur. Would you say that they occur less than once per week, about once per week, several times per week but not every day, or every day?” Some behaviors such as apathy eventually become continuously present, and then “are constantly present” can be substituted for “every day.”

When determining severity, tell the person being interviewed “Now I would like to find out how severe these behaviors are. By severity, I mean how disturbing or disabling they are for the patient. Would you say that (the behaviors) are mild, moderate, or severe?” Additional descriptors are provided in each section that may be used to help the interviewer clarify each grade of severity. In each case, be sure that the caregiver provides you with a definite answer as to the frequency and severity of the behaviors. Do not guess what you think the caregiver would say based on your discussion.

We have found it helpful to provide the caregiver with a piece of paper on which is written the frequency and severity descriptions (less than once per week, about once per week, several times per week, and once or more per day for frequency; and mild, moderate, and severe for severity) to allow him/her to visualize the response alternatives. This also saves the examiner from reiterating the alternatives with each question.

E. “Not Applicable” Designations

In very impaired patients or in patients with special medical circumstances, a set of questions may not be applicable. For example, bed-bound patients may exhibit hallucinations or agitation but are unable to exhibit aberrant motor behavior. If the clinician or the caregiver believes that the questions are inappropriate, then the section should be marked “NA” (upper right corner of each section), and no further data are recorded for that section. Likewise, if the clinician feels that the responses are invalid (e.g., the caregiver did not seem to understand the particular set of questions asked), “NA” should be marked. Analytically, “NA” responses must be treated as missing values.

F. Neurovegetative Changes

Items 11 (sleep) and 12 (appetite) were added after the original publication of the NPI (Cummings et al, 1994). They were included because they are common problem areas in Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias. They form part of the depression syndrome in some patients and were specifically excluded from the dysphoria subscale of the NPI in order to allow that subscale to focus on mood symptoms. These two symptoms may not be included in all protocols.

G. Caregiver Distress (NPI-D)

When each domain is completed and the caregiver has completed the frequency and severity rating, ask the associated caregiver distress question if your protocol includes the distress assessment. To do this, ask the caregiver how much, if any, “emotional or psychological” distress the behavior he/she just discussed causes him/her (the caregiver). The caregiver must rate his/her own distress on a five point scale from 0 - not at all, 1 - minimal, 2 - mildly, 3 - moderately, 4 - severely, 5 - very severely or extremely. The distress scale of this instrument was developed by Daniel Kaufer, M.D. (Kaufer et al., 1998).

III. Scoring the NPI

Frequency is rated as:

- ☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week
- ☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week
- ☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day
- ☐ 4. Very often – once or more per day
Severity is rated as:

- 1. Mild – produces little distress in the patient
- 2. Moderate – more disturbing to the patient but can be redirected by the caregiver
- 3. Severe – very disturbing to the patient and difficult to redirect

The score for each domain is: domain score = frequency x severity

Distress is scored as:

- 0. Not at all
- 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
- 2. Mildly (some change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
- 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
- 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
- 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)

Thus, for each behavioral domain there are four scores:

- Frequency
- Severity
- Total (frequency x severity)
- Caregiver distress

A total NPI score can be calculated by adding the scores of the first 10 domain scores together. If the two neurovegetative items are included, specify that the 12 item score is being used rather than the 10 item score. The distress score is not included in the total NPI core.

The total distress score is generated by adding together the scores of the individual NPI distress questions; specify whether the 10 or 12 item score is being used.

IV. NPI-NH and NPI-Q

A nursing home version of the NPI (the NPI-NH) has been developed for use with professional caregivers in institutional settings. The instrument is identical to the original NPI but the questions have been rephrased to reflect the fact that the professional caregiver will not have known the patient prior to the onset of the illness and cannot know if the current behaviors represent changes from premorbid behaviors. The caregiver distress questions have been rephrased to assess the “occupational disruptiveness” of the behaviors. The NPI-Q version of the NPI has been developed and cross-validated with the standard NPI to provide a brief assessment of neuropsychiatric symptomatology in clinical practice settings. The NPI, NPI-NH, and NPI-Q are all available through the website (NPItest.net).

V. Translations

The NPI is available in a variety of languages for Asia, Europe, and the Americas and more translated versions are currently being developed. These are available through the MAPI Institute Nice, France.
VI. Copyright and Use of the NPI

The NPI, NPI-NH and NPI-Q, and all translations and derivations are under copyright protection with all rights reserved to Jeffrey L. Cummings. They are made available at no charge for all noncommercial research and clinical purposes. Use of the instrument for commercial purposes (clinical trials, screening for commercial projects, application by for-profit health care providers, etc) is subject to charge and use of the instrument must be negotiated with Dr. Cummings. (E-mail jcummings@mednet.ucla.edu or NPItest.net).

It is requested that a copy of all published papers and abstracts using the NPI or NPI-NH be provided to Dr. Cummings at the address shown above. This allows construction of a comprehensive bibliography of studies and investigators using these instruments.

VII. Key References


Neuropsychiatric Inventory Questions
A. DELUSIONS

Does the patient have beliefs that you know are not true (for example, insisting that people are trying to harm him/her or steal from him/her)? Has he/she said that family members are not who they say they are or that the house is not their home? I’m not asking about mere suspiciousness; I am interested if the patient is convinced that these things are happening to him/her.

☐ Yes (If yes, please proceed to subquestions)            ☐ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)            ☐ N/A

1. Does the patient believe that he/she is in danger - that others are planning to hurt him/her?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
2. Does the patient believe that others are stealing from him/her?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
3. Does the patient believe that his/her spouse is having an affair?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
4. Does the patient believe that unwelcome guests are living in his/her house?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
5. Does the patient believe that his/her spouse or others are not who they claim to be?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
6. Does the patient believe that his/her house is not his/her home?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
7. Does the patient believe that family members plan to abandon him/her?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
8. Does the patient believe that television or magazine figures are actually present in the home?  
   (Does he/she try to talk or interact with them?)  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
9. Does the patient believe any other unusual things that I haven’t asked about?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the delusions.

**Frequency:**

☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week  
☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week  
☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day  
☐ 4. Very often – once or more per day

**Severity:**

☐ 1. Mild – delusions present but seem harmless and produce little distress in the patient.  
☐ 2. Moderate – delusions are distressing and disruptive.  
☐ 3. Severe – delusions are very disruptive and are a major source of behavioral disruption. (If PRN medications are prescribed, their use signals that the delusions are of marked severity.)

**Distress:** How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

☐ 0. Not at all  
☐ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)  
☐ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)  
☐ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)  
☐ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)  
☐ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)

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B. HALLUCINATIONS (NA)

Does the patient have hallucinations such as seeing false visions or hearing false voices? Does he/she seem to see, hear or experience things that are not present? By this question we do not mean just mistaken beliefs such as stating that someone who has died is still alive; rather we are asking if the patient actually has abnormal experiences of sounds or visions.

- Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)
- No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)
- N/A

1. Does the patient describe hearing voices or act as if he/she hears voices?
   - Yes
   - No

2. Does the patient talk to people who are not there?
   - Yes
   - No

3. Does he/she describe seeing things not seen by others or behave as if he/she is seeing things not seen by others (people, animals, lights, etc)?
   - Yes
   - No

4. Does he/she report smelling odors not smelled by others?
   - Yes
   - No

5. Does he/she describe feeling things on his/her skin or otherwise appear to be feeling things crawling or touching him/her?
   - Yes
   - No

6. Does he/she describe tastes that are without any known cause?
   - Yes
   - No

7. Does he/she describe any other unusual sensory experiences?
   - Yes
   - No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the hallucinations.

**Frequency:**

- 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
- 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
- 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
- 4. Very often – once or more per day.

**Severity:**

- 1. Mild – hallucinations are present but harmless and cause little distress for the patient.
- 2. Moderate – hallucinations are distressing and are disruptive to the patient.
- 3. Severe – hallucinations are very disruptive and are a major source of behavioral disturbance. PRN medications may be required to control them.

**Distress:** How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

- 0. Not at all
- 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
- 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
- 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
- 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
- 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
C. AGITATION/AGGRESSION

Does the patient have periods when he/she refuses to cooperate or won’t let people help him/her? Is he/she hard to handle?

☐ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)
☐ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)  ☐ N/A

1. Does the patient get upset with those trying to care for him/her or resist activities such as bathing or changing clothes?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Is the patient stubborn, having to have things his/her way?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Is the patient uncooperative, resistive to help from others?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Does the patient have any other behaviors that make him/her hard to handle?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Does the patient shout or curse angrily?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Does the patient slam doors, kick furniture, throw things?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Does the patient attempt to hurt or hit others?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Does the patient have any other aggressive or agitated behaviors?  ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the agitation/aggression.

Frequency:

☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
☐ 4. Very often – once or more per day.

Severity:

☐ 1. Mild – agitation is disruptive but can be managed with redirection or reassurance.
☐ 2. Moderate – agitation is disruptive and difficult to redirect or control.
☐ 3. Severe – agitation is very disruptive and a major source of difficulty; there may be a threat of personal harm. Medications are often required.

Distress: How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

☐ 0. Not at all
☐ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
☐ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
☐ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
☐ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
☐ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
### D. DEPRESSION/DYSPHORIA

Does the patient seem sad or depressed? Does he/she say that he/she feels sad or depressed?

- □ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)
- □ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)
- □ N/A

1. Does the patient have periods of tearfulness or sobbing that seem to indicate sadness?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

2. Does the patient say, or act as if, he/she is sad or in low spirits?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

3. Does the patient put him/herself down or say that he/she feels like a failure?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

4. Does the patient say that he/she is a bad person or deserves to be punished?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

5. Does the patient seem very discouraged or say that he/she has no future?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

6. Does the patient say he/she is a burden to the family or that the family would be better off without him/her?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

7. Does the patient express a wish for death or talk about killing himself/herself?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

8. Does the patient show any other signs of depression or sadness?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the depression/dysphoria.

**Frequency:**

- □ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
- □ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
- □ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
- □ 4. Very often – essentially continuously present.

**Severity:**

- □ 1. Mild – depression is distressing but usually responds to redirection or reassurance.
- □ 2. Moderate – depression is distressing; depressive symptoms are spontaneously voiced by the patient and difficult to alleviate.
- □ 3. Severe – depression is very distressing and a major source of suffering for the patient.

**Distress:** How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

- □ 0. Not at all
- □ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
- □ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
- □ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
- □ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
- □ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
E. Anxiety (NA)

Is the patient very nervous, worried, or frightened for no apparent reason? Does he/she seem very tense or fidgety? Is the patient afraid to be apart from you?

☐ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)  ☐ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)  ☐ N/A

1. Does the patient say that he/she is worried about planned events?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
2. Does the patient have periods of feeling shaky, unable to relax, or feeling excessively tense?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
3. Does the patient have periods of [or complain of] shortness of breath, gasping, or sighing for no apparent reason other than nervousness?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
4. Does the patient complain of butterflies in his/her stomach, or of racing or pounding of the heart in association with nervousness? (Symptoms not explained by ill health)  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
5. Does the patient avoid certain places or situations that make him/her more nervous such as riding in the car, meeting with friends, or being in crowds?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
6. Does the patient become nervous and upset when separated from you (or his/her caregiver)? (Does he/she cling to you to keep from being separated?)  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
7. Does the patient show any other signs of anxiety?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the anxiety.

Frequency:

☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
☐ 4. Very often – once or more per day.

Severity:

☐ 1. Mild – anxiety is distressing but usually responds to redirection or reassurance.
☐ 2. Moderate – anxiety is distressing, anxiety symptoms are spontaneously voiced by the patient and difficult to alleviate.
☐ 3. Severe – anxiety is very distressing and a major source of suffering for the patient.

Distress: How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

☐ 0. Not at all
☐ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
☐ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
☐ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
☐ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
☐ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
F. ELATION/EUPHORIA

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<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tr>
<td>Does the patient seem too cheerful or too happy for no reason? I don’t mean the normal happiness that comes from seeing friends, receiving presents, or spending time with family members. I am asking if the patient has a persistent and abnormally good mood or finds humor where others do not.</td>
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<td>□ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)</td>
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<td>□ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)</td>
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<td>□ N/A</td>
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<td>1. Does the patient appear to feel too good or to be too happy, different from his/her usual self?</td>
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<td>2. Does the patient find humor and laugh at things that others do not find funny?</td>
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<td>3. Does the patient seem to have a childish sense of humor with a tendency to giggle or laugh inappropriately (such as when something unfortunate happens to others)?</td>
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<td>4. Does the patient tell jokes or make remarks that are not funny to others but seem funny to him/her?</td>
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<td>□ Yes</td>
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<td>5. Does he/she play childish pranks such as pinching or playing “keep away” for the fun of it?</td>
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<td>□ Yes</td>
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<td>6. Does the patient “talk big” or claim to have more abilities or wealth than is true?</td>
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<td>7. Does the patient show any other signs of feeling too good or being too happy?</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ No</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the elation/euphoria.

**Frequency:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 4. Very often – essentially continuously present.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Severity:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Severity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ 1. Mild – elation is notable to friends and family but is not disruptive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 2. Moderate – elation is notably abnormal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 3. Severe – elation is very pronounced; patient is euphoric and finds nearly everything to be humorous.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Distress:** How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ 0. Not at all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
G. APATHY/INDIFFERENCE

Has the patient lost interest in the world around him/her? Has he/she lost interest in doing things or does he/she lack motivation for starting new activities? Is he/she more difficult to engage in conversation or in doing chores? Is the patient apathetic or indifferent?

☐ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions) ☐ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question) ☐ N/A

1. Does the patient seem less spontaneous and less active than usual? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Is the patient less likely to initiate a conversation? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Is the patient less affectionate or lacking in emotions when compared to his/her usual self? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Does the patient contribute less to household chores? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Does the patient seem less interested in the activities and plans of others? ☐ Yes ☐ No
6. Has the patient lost interest in friends and family members? ☐ Yes ☐ No
7. Is the patient less enthusiastic about his/her usual interests? ☐ Yes ☐ No
8. Does the patient show any other signs that he/she doesn’t care about doing new things? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the apathy/indifference.

Frequency:
☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
☐ 4. Very often – nearly always present.

Severity:
☐ 1. Mild – apathy is notable but produces little interference with daily routines; only mildly different from patient’s usual behavior; patient responds to suggestions to engage in activities.
☐ 2. Moderate – apathy is very evident; may be overcome by the caregiver with coaxing and encouragement; responds spontaneously only to powerful events such as visits from close relatives or family members.
☐ 3. Severe – apathy is very evident and usually fails to respond to any encouragement or external events.

Distress: How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?
☐ 0. Not at all
☐ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
☐ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
☐ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
☐ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
☐ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
# H. DISINHIBITION

Does the patient seem to act impulsively without thinking? Does he/she do or say things that are not usually done or said in public? Does he/she do things that are embarrassing to you or others?

- Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)
- No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Does the patient act impulsively without appearing to consider the consequences?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Does the patient talk to total strangers as if he/she knew them?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Does the patient say things to people that are insensitive or hurt their feelings?</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Does the patient say crude things or make sexual remarks that he/she would not usually have said?</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Does the patient talk openly about very personal or private matters not usually discussed in public?</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Does the patient take liberties or touch or hug others in way that is out of character for him/her?</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Does the patient show any other signs of loss of control of his/her impulses?</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the disinhibition.

**Frequency:**

- 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
- 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
- 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
- 4. Very often – essentially continuously present.

**Severity:**

- 1. Mild – disinhibition is notable but usually responds to redirection and guidance.
- 2. Moderate – disinhibition is very evident and difficult to overcome by the caregiver.
- 3. Severe – disinhibition usually fails to respond to any intervention by the caregiver, and is a source of embarrassment or social distress.

**Distress:** How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

- 0. Not at all
- 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
- 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
- 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
- 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
- 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
### 1. IRRITABILITY/LABILITY

Does the patient get irritated and easily disturbed? Are his/her moods very changeable? Is he/she abnormally impatient? We do not mean frustration over memory loss or inability to perform usual tasks; we are interested to know if the patient has abnormal irritability, impatience, or rapid emotional changes different from his/her usual self.

- Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)
- No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)
- N/A

1. Does the patient have a bad temper, “flying off the handle” easily over little things?  
   - Yes  
   - No

2. Does the patient rapidly change moods from one to another, being fine one minute and angry the next?  
   - Yes  
   - No

3. Does the patient have sudden flashes of anger?  
   - Yes  
   - No

4. Is the patient impatient, having trouble coping with delays or waiting for planned activities?  
   - Yes  
   - No

5. Is the patient cranky and irritable?  
   - Yes  
   - No

6. Is the patient argumentative and difficult to get along with?  
   - Yes  
   - No

7. Does the patient show any other signs of irritability?  
   - Yes  
   - No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the irritability/lability.

**Frequency:**

- 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
- 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
- 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
- 4. Very often – essentially continuously present.

**Severity:**

- 1. Mild – irritability or lability is notable but usually responds to redirection and reassurance.
- 2. Moderate – irritability and lability are very evident and difficult to overcome by the caregiver.
- 3. Severe – irritability and lability are very evident; they usually fail to respond to any intervention by the caregiver, and they are a major source of distress.

**Distress:** How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

- 0. Not at all
- 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
- 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
- 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
- 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
- 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
J. ABERRANT MOTOR BEHAVIOR

Does the patient pace, do things over and over such as opening closets or drawers, or repeatedly pick at things or wind string or threads?

☐ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)  ☐ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)  ☐ N/A

1. Does the patient pace around the house without apparent purpose?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
2. Does the patient rummage around opening and unpacking drawers or closets?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
3. Does the patient repeatedly put on and take off clothing?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
4. Does the patient have repetitive activities or “habits” that he/she performs over and over?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
5. Does the patient engage in repetitive activities such as handling buttons, picking, wrapping string, etc?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
6. Does the patient fidget excessively, seem unable to sit still, or bounce his/her feet or tap his/her fingers a lot?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
7. Does the patient do any other activities over and over?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the aberrant motor activity:

Frequency:

☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
☐ 4. Very often – essentially continuously present.

Severity:

☐ 1. Mild – abnormal motor activity is notable but produces little interference with daily routines.
☐ 2. Moderate – abnormal motor activity is very evident; can be overcome by the caregiver.
☐ 3. Severe – abnormal motor activity is very evident, usually fails to respond to any intervention by the caregiver and is a major source of distress.

Distress: How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

☐ 0. Not at all
☐ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
☐ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
☐ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
☐ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
☐ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
K. SLEEP AND NIGHTTIME BEHAVIOR DISORDERS

Does the patient have difficulty sleeping (do not count as present if the patient simply gets up once or twice per night only to go to the bathroom and falls back asleep immediately)? Is he/she up at night? Does he/she wander at night, get dressed, or disturb your sleep?

☐ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions)  ☐ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question)  ☐ N/A

1. Does the patient have difficulty falling asleep?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

2. Does the patient get up during the night (do not count if the patient gets up once or twice per night only to go to the bathroom and falls back asleep immediately)?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

3. Does the patient wander, pace, or get involved in inappropriate activities at night?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

4. Does the patient awaken you during the night?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

5. Does the patient wake up at night, dress, and plan to go out, thinking that it is morning and time to start the day?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

6. Does the patient awaken too early in the morning (earlier than was his/her habit)?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

7. Does the patient sleep excessively during the day?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

8. Does the patient have any other nighttime behaviors that bother you that we haven’t talked about?
   ☐ Yes  ☐ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the nighttime behavior.

Frequency:

☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
☐ 4. Very often – once or more per day (every night).

Severity:

☐ 1. Mild – nighttime behaviors occur but they are not particularly disruptive.
☐ 2. Moderate – nighttime behaviors occur and disturb the patient and the sleep of the caregiver; more than one type of nighttime behavior may be present.
☐ 3. Severe – nighttime behaviors occur; several types of nighttime behavior may be present; the patient is very distressed during the night and the caregiver’s sleep is markedly disturbed.

Distress: How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

☐ 0. Not at all
☐ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
☐ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
☐ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
☐ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
☐ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)
L. APPETITE AND EATING CHANGES (NA)

Has he/she had any change in appetite, weight, or eating habits (count as NA if the patient is incapacitated and has to be fed)? Has there been any change in type of food he/she prefers?

☐ Yes (if yes, please proceed to subquestions) ☐ No (if no, please proceed to next screening question) ☐ N/A

1. Has he/she had a loss of appetite? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. Has he/she had an increase in appetite? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Has he/she had a loss of weight? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Has he/she gained weight? ☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Has he/she had a change in eating behavior such as putting too much food in his/her mouth at once? ☐ Yes ☐ No
6. Has he/she had a change in the kind of food he/she likes such as eating too many sweets or other specific types of food? ☐ Yes ☐ No
7. Has he/she developed eating behaviors such as eating exactly the same types of food each day or eating the food in exactly the same order? ☐ Yes ☐ No
8. Have there been any other changes in appetite or eating that I haven’t asked about? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the screening question is confirmed, determine the frequency and severity of the changes in eating habits or appetite.

Frequency:

☐ 1. Rarely – less than once per week.
☐ 2. Sometimes – about once per week.
☐ 3. Often – several times per week but less than every day.
☐ 4. Very often – once or more per day or continuously.

Severity:

☐ 1. Mild – changes in appetite or eating are present but have not led to changes in weight and are not disturbing.
☐ 2. Moderate – changes in appetite or eating are present and cause minor fluctuations in weight.
☐ 3. Severe – obvious changes in appetite or eating are present and cause fluctuations in weight, are embarrassing, or otherwise disturb the patient.

Distress: How emotionally distressing do you find this behavior?

☐ 0. Not at all
☐ 1. Minimally (almost no change in work routine)
☐ 2. Mildly (almost no change in work routine but little time rebudgeting required)
☐ 3. Moderately (disrupts work routine, requires time rebudgeting)
☐ 4. Severely (disruptive, upsetting to staff and other residents, major time infringement)
☐ 5. Very Severely or Extremely (very disruptive, major source of distress for staff and other residents, requires time usually devoted to other residents or activities)

(05/27/09: JLC)
Please transcribe appropriate categories from the NPI Worksheet into the boxes provided.
For each domain:
- If symptoms of a domain did not apply, check the “N/A” box.
- If symptoms of a domain were absent, check the “0” box.
- If symptoms of a domain were present, check one score each for Frequency and Severity.
- Multiply Frequency score x Severity score and enter the product in the space provided.
- Total all Frequency x Severity scores and record the Total Score below.
- If symptoms of a domain were present, check one score for Distress; total all distress scores for a summary score.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOMAIN</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>ABSENT</th>
<th>FREQUENCY</th>
<th>SEVERITY</th>
<th>FREQUENCY X SEVERITY</th>
<th>CAREGIVER DISTRESS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Delusions</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Hallucinations</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Agitation/Aggression</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Depression/Dysphoria</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Anxiety</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>F. Elation/Euphoria</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G. Apathy/Indifference</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Disinhibition</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>I. Irritability/Lability</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Aberrant Motor Behavior</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL SCORE</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Sleep and Nighttime Behavior</td>
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<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Appetite/Eating Changes</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1 2 3 4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# Neuropsychiatric Inventory

## Worksheet

**Directions:** Read all items from the NPI “Instructions for Administration of the NPI”. Mark Caregiver’s responses on this worksheet before scoring the Frequency, Severity, and Caregiver Distress for each item.

**A. DELUSIONS:** □ Yes  □ No  □ N/A  
Frequency _______ Severity _______  
Distress _______  
☐ 1. Fear of harm  
☐ 2. Fear of theft  
☐ 3. Spousal affair  
☐ 4. Phantom boarder  
☐ 5. Spouse imposter  
☐ 6. House not home  
☐ 7. Fear of abandonment  
☐ 8. Talks to TV, etc.  
☐ 9. Other __________________________

**B. HALLUCINATIONS:** □ Yes  □ No  □ N/A  
Frequency _______ Severity _______  
Distress _______  
☐ 1. Hears voices  
☐ 2. Talks to people not there  
☐ 3. Sees things not there  
☐ 4. Smells things not there  
☐ 5. Feels things not there  
☐ 6. Unusual taste sensations  
☐ 7. Other __________________________

**C. AGITATION/AGGRESSION:** □ Yes  □ No  □ N/A  
Frequency _______ Severity _______  
Distress _______  
☐ 1. Upset with caregiver; resists ADL’s  
☐ 2. Stubbornness  
☐ 3. Uncooperative; resists help  
☐ 4. Hard to handle  
☐ 5. Cursing or shouting angrily  
☐ 6. Slams doors; kicks, throws things  
☐ 7. Hits, harms others  
☐ 8. Other __________________________

**D. DEPRESSION/DYSPHORIA:** □ Yes  □ No  □ N/A  
Frequency _______ Severity _______  
Distress _______  
☐ 1. Tearful and sobbing  
☐ 2. States, acts as if sad  
☐ 3. Puts self down, feels like failure  
☐ 4. “Bad person”, deserves punishment  
☐ 5. Discouraged, no future  
☐ 6. Burden to family  
☐ 7. Talks about dying, killing self  
☐ 8. Other __________________________

**E. ANXIETY:** □ Yes  □ No  □ N/A  
Frequency _______ Severity _______  
Distress _______  
☐ 1. Worries about planned events  
☐ 2. Feels shaky, tense  
☐ 3. Sobs, sighs, gasps  
☐ 4. Racing heart, “butterflies”  
☐ 5. Phobic avoidance  
☐ 6. Separation anxiety  
☐ 7. Other __________________________

**F. ELATION/EUPHORIA:** □ Yes  □ No  □ N/A  
Frequency _______ Severity _______  
Distress _______  
☐ 1. Feels too good, too happy  
☐ 2. Abnormal humor  
☐ 3. Childish, laughs inappropriately  
☐ 4. Jokes or remarks not funny to others  
☐ 5. Childish pranks  
☐ 6. Talks “big”, grandiose  
☐ 7. Other __________________________
## Neuropsychiatric Inventory

### G. APATHY/INDIFFERENCE
- **Frequency**
- **Severity**
- **Distress**
  - 1. Less spontaneous or active
  - 2. Less likely to initiate conversation
  - 3. Less affectionate, lacking emotions
  - 4. Contributes less to household chores
  - 5. Less interested in others
  - 6. Lost interest in friends or family
  - 7. Less enthusiastic about interests
  - 8. Other

### H. DISINHIBITION
- **Frequency**
- **Severity**
- **Distress**
  - 1. Acts impulsively
  - 2. Excessively familiar with strangers
  - 3. Insensitive or hurtful remarks
  - 4. Crude or sexual remarks
  - 5. Talks openly of private matters
  - 6. Inappropriate touching of others
  - 7. Other

### I. IRRITABILITY/LIBILITY
- **Frequency**
- **Severity**
- **Distress**
  - 1. Bad temper, “flies off handle” easily
  - 2. Rapid changes in mood
  - 3. Sudden flashes of anger
  - 4. Impatient, trouble coping with delays
  - 5. Cranky, irritable
  - 6. Argues, difficult to get along with
  - 7. Other

### J. ABERRANT MOTOR BEHAVIOR
- **Frequency**
- **Severity**
- **Distress**
  - 1. Paces without purpose
  - 2. Opens or unpacks closets or drawers
  - 3. Repeatedly dresses and undresses
  - 4. Repetitive activities or “habits”
  - 5. Handling, picking, wrapping behavior
  - 6. Excessively fidgety
  - 7. Other

### K. SLEEP AND NIGHTTIME BEHAVIOR DISORDERS
- **Yes**
- **No**
- **N/A**
- **Frequency**
- **Severity**
- **Distress**
  - 1. Difficulty falling asleep
  - 2. Up during the night
  - 3. Wanders, paces, inappropriate activity
  - 4. Awakens others at night
  - 5. Wakes and dresses to go out at night
  - 6. Early morning awakening
  - 7. Sleeps excessively during the day
  - 8. Other

### L. APPETITE/EATING CHANGES
- **Yes**
- **No**
- **N/A**
- **Frequency**
- **Severity**
- **Distress**
  - 1. Loss of appetite
  - 2. Increased appetite
  - 3. Weight loss
  - 4. Weight gain
  - 5. Change in eating habits
  - 6. Change in food preferences
  - 7. Eating rituals
  - 8. Other