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Telephone Interview for Cognitive Status (TICS)**

Availability:	The TICS is available from the Psychological Assessment Resources (PAR). For additional information, please visit: Click here for the PAR website.
Classification:	Supplemental.
Short Description of Instrument:	<p><u>Purpose.</u> The Telephone Interview for Cognitive Status (TICS) is a brief, standardized test of cognitive functioning that was developed for use in situations where in-person cognitive screening is impractical or inefficient (e.g., large-scale population screening, epidemiological surveys, with patients who are unable to appear in person for clinical follow-up). It is also helpful in the diagnosis of documenting progressive impairment, and might also identify incident disease in research populations.</p> <p><u>Overview.</u> The TICS is designed to be administered using the telephone, however, it also may be administered face-to-face. The TICS is particularly useful for examining visually impaired individuals and individuals who are unable to read or write, since it does not require vision.</p> <p>The TICS is very brief and tests many of the basic cognitive functions affected by dementia, consisting of an 11-items, that assess a variety of cognitive domains affected by dementing disorders, including orientation to time and place, receptive and expressive language functions, immediate verbal memory, calculation, and verbal abstraction. It successfully differentiates carefully diagnosed Alzheimer’s disease patients from healthy spouse controls and demonstrates high test-retest reliability in these populations.</p> <p><u>Time.</u> The test usually takes less than 10 minutes to administer and score.</p> <p><u>Scoring.</u> The individual item scores are summed to obtain the TICS Total score, ranging from 0 - 41.</p> <p><u>Psychometric Properties.</u> The TICS has a high test-retest reliability and excellent sensitivity and specificity for the detection of cognitive impairment. Among elderly populations, TICS scores approximate a normal distribution and are not subject to the ceiling effects that limit the usefulness of many mental status examinations.</p> <p><u>Other Important Notes.</u> The TICS has a modified version, TIC-m, which eliminates items that are difficult to verify in epidemiological study, and also included a delayed recall procedure in an attempt to increase sensitivity.</p> <p>Before administering the telephone interview, the examiner must speak with someone at the same location (e.g., family member, caregiver) who will serve as a proctor to ensure that the environment is appropriate for testing and that the examinee is able to hear spoken language at a spoken volume. All examinee responses are recorded verbatim.</p>

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References:	<p>Brandt J. (2010). Telephone Interview for Cognitive Status™ (TICS™). PAR. Click here for the Telephone Interview for Cognitive Status™ website.</p> <p>Welsh KA, Breitner JCS, Magruder-Habib KM. (1993). Detection of dementia in the elderly using telephone screening of cognitive status. <i>Neuropsychiatry Neuropsychology Behaviora Neurology</i>. 6:103-110.</p> <p>Plassman BL, Newman TT, Welsh KA, Helms M, Breitner JCS. (1994). Properties of the telephone Interview for Cognitive Status: application in epidemiological and longitudinal studies. <i>Neuropsychiatry Neuropsychology Behaviora Neurology</i>. 7:235-241</p>
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