Frontal Assessment Battery (FAB)

The **full version** of the Frontal Assessment Battery (FAB) comes without 'sample' watermark.

.

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- Overview
- Scoring Guide
- Complete questioner/Test

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Frontal Assessment Battery (FAB)

This instrument assesses frontal lobe function and identify a dysexecutive syndrome. Such an assessment is helpful in the diagnosis and prognosis of brain diseases such as frontotemporal dementias and for the evaluation of the severity of brain injuries. It can also help to identify deficits in vascular dementias and parkinsonian disorders, particularly progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP), in which the presence of frontal lobe dysfunction supports the diagnosis. It may also be useful for differentiating between degenerative disorders involving subcortical structures for evaluating the progression of these disorders over time. (Dubois, B., Slachervsky, A., Litvan, Il, and Pillon, B. (2000), The FAB: A frontal assessment battery at bedside, *Neurology*, 55, p1621)

Background: Frontal-type cognitive deficits are common in patients with Parkinson disease (PD). The Frontal Assessment Battery (FAB) was developed to assess frontal lobe functions. However, many studies found that it also correlated with a variety of other general neuropsychological tests.

Objectives: To evaluate whether the FAB has an added value over the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) and other bedside neuropsychological tests in reflecting cognitive deficits in patients with PD.

Methods: Seventy-two consecutive patients with PD underwent cognitive assessment including the FAB, the MMSE, and a variety of other neuropsychological tests. Correlations were examined using the Spearman's *r*.

Results: Highly significant correlations were found between the total FAB score and tests of attention, executive functions, and memory. To evaluate the contribution of the FAB beyond that of the MMSE, partial correlation was used. Analyses revealed that the FAB still correlated with most of the tests. Dividing the patients according to the median MMSE score revealed that the high correlation between the FAB and the MMSE was preserved in the low MMSE group, while in the high MMSE group the correlation was relatively low. In the high MMSE group, the FAB correlated with 11 tests compared to the MMSE that correlated with one ($P < .001$), while in the low MMSE group the number of correlations was 13 versus 7, respectively ($P = .05$).

Conclusions: In our sample of patients with PD, the FAB correlated with dysfunction in a variety of cognitive domains including attention, memory, and executive functions. The FAB has an added value over the MMSE, particularly among nondemented patients, an advantage that can be used in clinical practice.

Frontal Assessment Battery (FAB)

TEST

Purpose

The FAB is a brief tool that can be used at the bedside or in a clinic setting to assist in discriminating between dementias with a frontal dysexecutive phenotype and Dementia of Alzheimer's Type (DAT). The FAB has validity in distinguishing Fronto-temporal type dementia from DAT in mildly demented patients (MMSE > 24). Total score is from a maximum of 18, higher scores indicating better performance.

1.   Similarities (conceptualization)

"In what way are they alike?"
         A banana and an orange

(In the event of total failure: "they are not alike" or partial failure: "both have peel," help the patient by saying: "both a banana and an orange are fruit"; but credit 0 for the item; do not help the patient for the two following items)

     A table and a chair
     A tulip, a rose and a daisy

Score (only category responses [fruits, furniture, flowers] are considered correct)

Three correct: 3   Two correct: 2   One correct: 1   None correct: 0

2. Lexical fluency (mental flexibility)

"Say as many words as you can beginning with the letter "S," any words except surnames or proper nouns."

If the patient gives no response during the first 5 seconds, say: "for instance, snake." If the patient pauses 10 seconds, stimulate him by saying: "any word beginning with the letter "S." The time allowed is
60 seconds.

Score (word repetitions or variations [shoe, shoemaker], surnames, or proper nouns are not counted as correct responses)

> 9 words: 3   6 -9 words: 2   3 -5 words: 1   < 3 words: 0

This is the end of the sample version of the FAB. Full version has complete 6 part test criteria and scoring guide.