

This is a **Sample** version of the  
**Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive  
Decline in the Elderly (IQCODE)**

The **full version** of the Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly (IQCODE) comes without 'sample' watermark.

The full complete version includes –

- Overview
- Scoring Guide
- Complete 26 item questionnaire/Test

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# **Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly (IQCODE)**

## **Rationale behind the IQCODE:**

Most screening tests for dementia involve a brief list of questions to directly assess cognitive functioning. Probably the best-known dementia screening test of this kind is the Mini-Mental State Examination. A disadvantage of such tests is that they are affected by the person's level of education, familiarity with the dominant language and culture in their country, and level of intelligence before the onset of dementia.

Because of this, cognitive screening tests can falsely indicate dementia in people with lower education, culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and lower intelligence. Cognitive screening tests may also have the opposite problem, falsely indicating that a person does not have dementia, especially if that person had a higher level of education or intelligence originally.

The IQCODE attempts to overcome this problem by assessing change from earlier in life, rather than the person's current level of functioning. It does this by making use of the informant's knowledge of both the person's earlier and current cognitive functioning.

## **Validity of the IQCODE:**

The IQCODE has been found to distinguish people who have or do not have dementia. A low score on the IQCODE in a person who does not currently have dementia has also been found to predict that they will develop dementia in the future.

The IQCODE has found to correlate highly with conventional dementia screening tests, such as the Mini-Mental State Examination, and to have moderate correlations with a range of neuropsychological tests. It has also been found to correlate with change in cognitive test scores over time.

The IQCODE has near-zero correlations with a person's level of education or with their intelligence earlier in life. This is in contrast to conventional dementia screening tests like the Mini-Mental State Examination, which are affected by education and intelligence as well as the presence of dementia.

## **References**

1. ^ Jorm, A.F. (1996). Assessment of cognitive impairment and dementia using informant reports. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 16, 51-73.
2. ^ Jorm, A.F. (2004). The Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly (IQCODE): A review. *International Psychogeriatrics*, 16,1-19.

## Informant Questionnaire on Cognitive Decline in the Elderly (IQCODE)

Now we want you to remember what your friend or relative was like 10 years ago and to compare it with what he/she is like now. 10 years ago was in 20\_\_\_\_  
Below are situations where this person has to use his/her memory or intelligence and we want you to indicate whether this has improved, stayed the same, or got worse in that situation over the past 10 years. Note the importance of comparing his/her present performance with 10 years ago. So if 10 years ago this person always forgot where he/she had left things, and he/she still does, then this would be considered 'Hasn't changed much'. Please indicate the changes you have observed by circling the appropriate answer.

### Compared with 10 years ago how is this person at:

	1	2	3	4	5
1. Recognizing the faces of family and friends	Much improved	A bit improved	Not much change	A bit worse	Much worse
2. Remembering the names of family and friends	Much improved	A bit improved	Not much change	A bit worse	Much worse
3. Remembering things about family and friends e.g. occupations, birthdays, addresses	Much improved	A bit improved	Not much change	A bit worse	Much worse
4. Remembering things that have happened recently	Much improved	A bit improved	Not much change	A bit worse	Much worse
5. Recalling conversations a few days later	Much improved	A bit improved	Not much change	A bit worse	Much worse

This is the end of the sample version of the IQCODE. Full complete version has 26 question test criteria, plus scoring guide and complete overview.