

This is a **Sample** version of the  
**Kingston Dementia Rating Scale (KDRS)**

The **full version** of the Kingston Dementia Rating Scale (KDRS) comes without 'sample' watermark.

The full complete version includes –

- Overview
- Instructional Manual
- Scoring Guide
- Complete 21 item questionnaire/Test
- KDRS Chart Summary

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# Kingston Dementia Rating Scale (KDRS)

## Instruction Manual:

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The Kingston Dementia Rating Scale was developed to monitor the condition of patients suffering from organic brain syndromes, especially progressive dementias such as Alzheimer's Disease. This is accomplished by determining the presence or absence of 21 symptoms or behaviours associated with dementia. Unlike other rating scales that trust entirely to a rater's memory and impressions, this scale requires a certain amount of patient participation.

The "Rating Form" of the scale is a five page booklet listing the 21 items with some instructions. Each item is scored either "0" for the absence of a symptom or "1" for its presence and, thereby, a score out of 21 is obtained. There are 4 groups of items or subsections to the scale and each of these is given a subtotal. These subtotals are recorded on the face sheet of the scale and on the "Kingston Dementia Rating Scale Summary" sheet in the patient's chart. The Summary sheet allows one to quickly check a patient's progress. The rater may be any staff member who is familiar with the patient's condition.

## **Item Instructions and Definitions –**

The following is a description of the items as they appear in the scale with definitions and instructions for each.

### Section I - Orientation

This rather large section is very important as "disorientation" or "generalized mental confusion" is usually an early and major symptom of progressive dementias. To rate a patient on these 10 items the patient must be approached and taken aside to a quiet area, free of distractions. Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 must be scored according to the patient's responses. On items 7, 9, and 10 knowledge of the patient's recent behaviour (within the preceding 7 days) may be employed. This time frame must be adhered to in order to obtain a current rating.

1. Orientation to Place - The patient is asked "Where are you now?" What is required for a score of 0 is to identify the type of facility, rather than its official name. For example, the response "hospital" is sufficient, rather than "Kingston Psychiatric Hospital".

**Sample KDRS instruction manual ends here. Full complete version has 1 to 21 Instruction items.**

### III - Score Interpretation

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To aid in the interpretation of the Kingston Dementia Rating Scale, the following description of scores may be useful. This particular system is used by the Psychogeriatric Unit of Kingston Psychiatric Hospital where the Kingston Dementia Rating Scale was developed. It is intended only as a guide and some deviation from the descriptive terms used may be considered useful by individual clinicians.

A score of 0 is considered normal. A patient scoring 0 is unlikely to have clinically apparent signs of dementia but this does not rule out the very early stage of a progressive disorder.

A score of 1 to 3 is considered indicative of a mild degree of confusion or organic brain impairment.

A score of 4 to 6 is usually found in patients suffering from a moderate degree of organic brain dysfunction.

A score of 7 to 10 may be indicative of a patient with a more advanced state of organic brain dysfunction or suffering an acute confusional state.

Advanced states of dementia usually produce scores over 10. Scores are rarely found in excess of 16 or 17 in ambulatory patients.

Scores may vary according to the time of day, from morning to afternoon or evening. It is therefore useful to choose a time of day for rating and try to do all rating around that time.

A change of score of 2 points or more is statistically significant, however, the reason for this change may have to be carefully considered.

Rapid increases in scores, especially when they jump into the range above 10 or 12, are indicative of patients who are deteriorating quite rapidly and these particular patients should be given very close attention by clinical personnel.

It should be noted that these interpretations are based upon a population consisting of ambulatory confused patients diagnosed as suffering from Alzheimer's Disease or related disorders. Other forms of organic brain dysfunction and metabolic disturbances may produce confusional states and dementia-like symptoms yielding scores that may have to be interpreted in a somewhat different manner.

# KINGSTON DEMENTIA RATING SCALE

## I - Rating Form

Patient's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rater's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Rating: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Rating: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### SUMMARY

	Score
I. Orientation	_____
II. Emotional Control	_____
III. Language	_____
IV. Items 18-21	_____
Total Score	_____

Consult the KDRS Instruction Manual when in doubt as to the scoring of an item.

RECORD THE PATIENT'S ACTUAL RESPONSES AS WELL AS THE SCORE. THE "STATEMENTS" (in bold) ARE THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PATIENT. IF AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE IS NOT CALLED FOR, ONLY THE PATIENT'S BEHAVIOUR OVER THE LAST 7 DAYS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.

## I ORIENTATION

### 1. Orientation to Place

"Where are you now?" The patient must identify the type of facility, rather than its precise name.

Response: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Orientation to People

Point to a staff member and ask - "Does that person work here?" Then point to a patient and ask - "Does that person work here?"

Response: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Orientation to Year

"What year is this?"

Response: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. Orientation to Month

"What month is this?"

Response: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Orientation to Day of Week

"Which day of the week is this?" (i.e. Monday?, Tuesday?...)

Response: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_

This is the end of KDSR sample version of test. Full complete version has 21 item questions, plus the KDRS Chart Summary.

