SIMARD MD

Screen for the Identification of the Cognitively Impaired Medically At-Risk Driver A Modification of the DemTect[1]

Dobbs & Schopflocher (2010)

Administration Instructions

The screening test consists of 4 separate tasks: 2 memory tasks for words; a number conversion task in which numbers have to be converted into words; and a verbal fluency task in which the patient has one minute to name objects that can be bought in a supermarket.

WORD LIST (Immediate Recall)

Do not indicate in any way there will be a delayed recall component later in the test

The examiner instructs the patient: "*I will now slowly read you a list of 10 words. When I have finished, please repeat as many of these words as possible. The order does not matter*."
   - Check off each word that the patient recalls
   - Prompts (if necessary): "*Tell me as many of those words as you can, please*."
             "*Can you recall any more?*"
The examiner then gives the patient the following instructions: "*Thank you. Now I will read you the same words again. Again, please repeat as many of these words as possible when I have finished.*"
   - Check off each word that the patient recalls
   - Again, provide prompts, as necessary, as listed above

SCORING: No score is awarded; however, the immediate recall component of the word list is necessary for the delayed recall component of the SIMARD MD (i.e., Repeat of the Word List).

NUMBER CONVERSION

Give the reverse side of the testing form to the patient for completion.
Show the patient the example at the top of the page. Say to the patient: "*As you can see from this example, we can write the number '5' as the word 'five'. This task is like writing out a cheque. Please write the numbers in words.*"

SCORING: Each correct conversion scores one point. Isolated spelling mistakes (e.g., hunred, sevnty) are marked as correct. No marks will be awarded for any other conversion mistakes such as the wrong number system (e.g., 209 = 2hundred9) or omissions (e.g., 209 = two hundred) [Maximum of 2 points].

SUPERMARKET TASK

Say to the patient: "*Please name as many things as possible that you can buy in a supermarket. You have one minute to do this. Are you ready? Please begin.*" Please time the minute exactly (a wristwatch with a second hand is sufficient).

SCORING: Give one point for each object named [Maximum of 30 points].

REPEAT OF THE WORD LIST (Delayed Recall)

Say to the patient: "*At the beginning of this test I read you 10 words. Tell me as many of those words as you can, please.*" (May give prompts as in the Word List task above.)

SCORING: Give one point for each word that the patient recalls [Maximum of 10 points].

INTERPRETATION

See Scoring Guide at the bottom of the testing form to calculate the SIMARD MD total score.
A total score of ≤ 30:   High probability of failing a driving assessment.
A total score of 31-70:   Referral for a driving assessment recommended.
A total score of > 70:   Low probability of failing a driving assessment.

[1]Based on items from the DemTect (Kalbe et al., 2004) and used with permission. Selection of items and scoring system based on research using driving evaluation outcome as the criterion.

Dobbs, B. M. & Schopflocher, D. (2010). The introduction of a new screening tool for the identification of cognitively impaired medically at-risk drivers: The SIMARD A Modification of the DemTect. *Journal of Primary Care and Community Health, in press.*