

Title of the study:	Measure for Dyadic Conversation in Aphasia (MDCA): Psychometric testing
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Principal Investigator:	Professor Katerina Hilari
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READ FIRST

Information, resources and training

- All resources needed can be found at cityaccess.org/mdca
- Assessors should first go through project information and resources, and complete training as needed. Assessors must:
 - Familiarize themselves with the measures to be used (copies are available for reference). Practice online forms are available on the links under visits.
 - Read the 'MDCA administration guide' and the 'Helping a person with aphasia to complete PROMs guide'
- Participants for this study are people with aphasia (PWA) and communication partners (CPs)
- See flowchart below for what happens in each contact with participants

Data collection

- ✓ All forms and measures are completed on a device (tablet, computer, phone) either in person or via videoconferencing at cityaccess.org/mdca

NB: INCOMPLETE MEASURES WILL NOT BE SAVED. DO NOT START A MEASURE IF YOU THINK YOU WILL NOT HAVE TIME OR IF THE RESPONDENT MAY BE TOO TIRED TO COMPLETE IT.

- ✓ For the FAST, the assessor needs to have a hard copy of the scoring sheet available: see information below
- ✓ In the first visit, after the FAST is completed, the eligibility form is completed which triggers the participant ID. The assessor needs the participant ID for visits 2 and 3. The assessor will be asked to input their email in a box in order to receive an email with the participant ID. This email will also automatically go to each site PI.
- ✓ In each visit, complete tools and measures in the order they are displayed on the screen.

Information on specific measures

FAST

The FAST needs to be completed during eligibility tests to ensure PWA have adequate understanding to complete the measures used in the study. To be eligible PWA need to score 7 or more on the *receptive* domains of the FAST (auditory and reading comprehension)

- A scoring sheet should be printed and be available to the assessor to complete whilst showing stimuli to the person with aphasia on the screen. This way they can score the measure without the scores being visible to the person with aphasia.
- Once all tools are completed with the person with aphasia during Visit 1, the assessor can transfer the FAST scores from the scoring sheet to the online form

GHQ-12

The GHQ-12 is a screening tool for high emotional distress / depression. If a participant scores 3 or more on the GHQ they may be suffering from depression. On such occasions this finding will need to be discussed with them. This conversation may start with an opener like ‘This measure asks questions about your mood. Do you feel your mood is low?’ If a participant feels they suffer from low mood, a course of action should be agreed. Support should be provided to implement this plan. This may involve:

- Raising this finding (with their consent) or encouraging them to raise this with their referring clinician (if applicable) and/or
- Seek support from their GP. It may involve supporting them to make contact and complete e-health consultation requests.
- Where appropriate, assessors may recommend and help participants to contact support organisations, such as the Stroke Association, Aphasia Re-Connect or other local groups.

TOMs

The TOMs measure is not completed together with participants. The assessors can complete the TOMs forms in their own time.

If you have any questions, check with your site’s PI or with k.hilari@city.ac.uk

MDCA Psychometrics study

Study Visits Flowchart

Initial information provided to potential participants (e.g., by referring group facilitator or clinician). Expression of interest, **provision of PIS**, check research burden.

Referrer provides potential participant contact details to project researcher. Researcher contacts potential participant to arrange date and time of visit and specify visit location.

Visit 1 (1hr) Screening and demographics

- Check full understanding of project information (PIS) and **obtain consent**

PWA: FAST (score on hard copy form), Eligibility form (triggers ID), Case history

CP: Eligibility form, Case history

Visit 2 (1hr)

-Confirm written consent and provide participants with a copy.

PWA: MDCA, Review Questions, CPIB, Review Questions, GHQ-12, SAQOL-39g.

CP: MDCA, Review Questions, CETI, GHQ-12.

Visit 3 (20 minutes) optional

Repeat MDCA with **PWA** and **CP**.

Researcher or referring clinician

Completes **TOMs impairment, activity and participation and wellbeing for PWA**