

OCTH 6260-Spring- Assessment Rating Form

I. General Information

Title of the test: Box and Block Test (1985)

Author: Patricia Holser Buehler, Elisabeth Fuchs

Publisher: Sammons Preston Rolyan, Inc.

Time required to administer: 10-15 minutes for both extremities

Cost of the Test: Commercially produced versions can be purchased for approximately \$200

<http://www.wisdomking.com/product/box-block-test>

http://www.pattersonmedical.com/app.aspx?cmd=get_product&id=79848

<http://www.medicalsuppliest.com/box-and-block-test-1>

II. Description of Test

Type/Purpose of Test: This test assesses unilateral gross manual dexterity in adults and children to determine functional levels of the upper extremity in people with disability compared with those without disability. It can also be used as a prevocational testing tool for people with physical disabilities

Population: Adults age 20 to 75 and older, with or without disabilities; norms for children age 6 to 19 have been published. (The normative sample consisted of 628 adults)

Focus of measurement:

Organic systems Abilities Participation/life habits Environmental Factors

III. Practical Administration

Ease of Administration: Very easy to follow directions and administer. Just be sure to watch for how the client grabs and transfers each block. Want to make sure they use one hand and only transfer one block at a time. If they perform it wrong, their score will be affected. Overall, this is a simple test to administer.

Clarity of Directions: Overall, the clarity of directions is straightforward. The directions provide information of how to set up the test, how you should position the client and yourself in relation to the client, how the client is supposed to perform the test, what exactly to say throughout administering the test, and how to score. Directions are short and easy to read and provide adequate detail.

Scoring Procedures: Scoring is very simple. The score is the number of blocks carried from one compartment to the other in one minute. Score each hand separately.

Examiner Qualification & Training: As with any test, be familiar with it and be prepared before you administer it. Test does not require any additional qualifications of training. This is a simple test to administer. It is recommended to have a thorough understanding of test statistics; general procedures of administering tests, scoring, and interpreting; specific information about unilateral manual dexterity testing

IV. Technical Considerations

Standardization: Norms Criterion Referenced Other _____

Reliability: Several studies have demonstrated high reliability with this tool. According to Mathiowetz and associates (1985a), test-retest reliability yielded rho coefficients of 0.937 and 0.976 for the left and right hands, respectively. Interrater reliabilities were 1.0 and 0.999 for the right and left hands, respectively.

Validity: Validity was established by correlations with Minnesota Rate of Manipulation Test-Placing (0.91). Test scores discriminated between populations with and without disabilities.

Manual: Excellent Adequate Poor

What is (are) the setting/s that you would anticipate using this assessment?

This assessment would be appropriate to use in various settings, such as in inpatient, rehabilitation, outpatient, or even in the client's home. This test and required material can be transported to any of the mentioned environments where it is necessary to address unilateral gross dexterity.

Summary of strengths and weaknesses:

Weakness: Only addresses unilateral gross manual dexterity, expensive to purchase, box may be annoying to travel with, requires a lot of pieces (blocks)

Strength: Takes little time to administer, short and easy to follow directions, easy to administer, easy to score, can be administered on adults and children

Reference: Mathiowetz, V., G. Volland, et al. (1985). "Adult norms for the Box and Block Test of manual dexterity." *Am J Occup Ther* 39(3160243): 386-391.