

**This assessment review was compiled by our students and is intended to be used as a guide in assisting clinicians. We encourage you to review the evaluations and assessments for yourself to guarantee the most accurate and updated information.*

I. General Information

Title of the test: ABILHAND

Author: Massimo Penta, 2001

Publisher: Rehab-Scales.org

Time required to administer: Roughly 10-20 minutes or less

Cost of the Test: Free from website (www.rehab-scales.org)

II. Description of Test

Type/Purpose of Test: A questionnaire developed to measure a client's perceived manual ability. The questionnaire is given in an interview format.

Population: Originally developed for clients with rheumatoid arthritis, chronic stroke, or systematic sclerosis. For adults with upper limb impairments ages 16-80.

Focus of measurement:

Organic systems Abilities Participation/life habits Environmental Factors

III. Practical Administration

Ease of Administration: Very easy to administer. The therapist only has to ask the client to estimate their perceived ease or difficulty of performing each task on the questionnaire, which are presented in random order and evaluated on a three level scale. Test packages of 10 score sheets and response scales for each form can be downloaded on the website for free.

Clarity of Directions: Administration directions are very clear. However there are a few caveats in the directions: not scoring items not completed in the last three months and reminding the client to give responses only when activities are done without help, irrespective of the limb(s) the client actually uses and whatever the strategies used to perform the activity that need to be explained to client. Interpret the online analysis is slightly more complicated, but useful once understood.

Scoring Procedures: Client's are asked to estimate their ease or difficulty in performing each activity when done without help, irrespective of the limb(s) the client actually uses and whatever the strategies used to perform the activity. The activity needs to be based on an experience within the last three months. If activity has not been attempted in past three months are marked as "?" on the response sheet, meaning not applicable. The form for clients with chronic stroke has 23 bimanual activities, the form for clients with rheumatoid arthritis has 27 bimanual activities, and the form for clients with systemic sclerosis has 26 uni- and bimanual activities. Clients rate each activity on a 3-level scale of impossible, difficult or easy. Responses from questionnaire can be submitted online for analysis on their website. The analysis converts raw scores into a linear measure. The vertical red line is the client's manual ability and the dotted red line is its 95% confidence interval, which is expressed in logits (a linear unit that expresses the odds of success of the patient on any given item). Clients with higher ability are denoted the further right they go. The item map on the analysis expresses which activities are the easiest and most difficult, which can be used in treatment planning and follow-up. Scores circled in red on the analysis can help identify atypical behavior or other comorbidities.

Examiner Qualification & Training: No training is required, anyone can read the website and download the assessment for free.

IV. Technical Considerations

Standardization: ___ Norms Criterion Referenced ___ Other

Reliability:

Form for clients with systemic sclerosis test-retest reliability = 0.96

Form for clients with rheumatoid arthritis separation reliability = 0.95

Form for clients with chronic stroke separation reliability = 0.90

Validity: Construct validity = -0.53

Manual: ___ Excellent Adequate ___ Poor

There is no manual per say but the instructions online are clear and concise as well as the instructions on each of the forms. Test reliability and validity could be more visible and explained with greater detail.

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

Hand clinic, outpatient, home health, skilled nursing facility

Summary of strengths and weaknesses

Weakness:

- Requires registering on website
- Requires inputting data for online analysis
- Not available in Spanish
- Is not validated for adults over 80
- Client does not have to perform any of the activities in front of evaluator

Strength:

- Good psychometrics for reliability
- Available in multiple languages
- Free!
- Online data analysis, gives quick results
- The website is current
- There is a kids version of the assessment available on the website called ABILHAND-Kids