

**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: The Middlesex Elderly Assessment of Mental State (MEAMS)

Author: Evelyn Golding

Publisher: Pearson Assessment
80 Strand
London WC2R 0RL
United Kingdom
Phone: +44 1865 314348
Email: info@pearson-uk.com

Time required to administer: The time taken to administer the MEAMS for an individual is approximately 10-20 minutes.

Cost of the Test: The entire packet costs \$147.00. The manual is \$33.00. 25 Scoring sheets cost \$17.00. The stimulus books both cost \$48.50.

II. Description of Test

Type/Purpose of Test: This is a screening test used to detect impairment of cognitive skills in the elderly population. It allows practitioners to differentiate between cognitive impairments and physical dysfunctions. It measures the major areas of cognition using 12 subtests. They are: Orientation, Name Learning, Naming, Comprehension, Remembering Pictures, Arithmetic, Spatial Construction, Fragmented Letter Perception, Unusual Views, Usual Views, Verbal Fluency, and Motor Perseveration. It includes two parallel versions to allow for repeated testing. Unique to this screening is the fact that it assesses perception, memory, language, and executive functions in addition to other major cognitive skills.

Population: The elderly population. It was tested and validated on 120 elderly patients, age 65-93 years.

Focus of measurement:

Organic systems Abilities Participation/life habits Environmental Factors

III. Practical Administration

Ease of Administration: The test is short, simple, and easy to administer. The directions are provided in the Description and Validation manual while the Test Material Manual itself has step by step directions provided on each page to follow as the test is administered. The Test Material Manual is set up as a flip chart so the test giver can read the instructions on the back while the subject views the pictures on the front of the manual. This makes administering the test very easy.

Clarity of Directions: Directions for administering the test are summarized in the Description and Validation manual. Specific Directions for administering the screening are found in the Test Material Manuals. Each page in the Test Material Manuals has a question which you read and then follow the directions onto the next page. It is straight forward and easy to follow. Simple scoring details are found on the scoring sheet and are easy to follow as well.

Scoring Procedures: Each subtest has a maximum raw score and a pass raw score. The scores for the overall test are obtained by answering the questions correctly or incorrectly. For example, in the name learning subtest a maximum score of 4 is possible but a score of 2 is considered passing. If the pass raw score is reached for that subtest than the person taking the test passes that subtest and they receive a score of 1 and if they fail the subtest they receive a score of 0.

Subjects who receive a score of 10, 11, or 12 out of 12 are considered to be performing within normal range for the elderly. Subjects scoring 8 or 9 are borderline and should be scrutinized more closely. Subjects scoring 7 or below should almost always receive more testing and investigation regarding their cognitive functioning and skills. It is suggested that these individuals receive further testing including neuropsychological and psychological assessment.

Examiner Qualification & Training: Any professional whose institution is recognized by Pearson Assessment or individuals with a graduate or a post graduate degree in their respected field. Specifically associated with professionals in the fields of psychology, other mental health fields, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and health practitioners.

IV. Technical Considerations

Standardization: Norms Criterion Referenced Other

Reliability: Test-Retest, Inter-rater

Validity:

Manual: Adequate

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

Acute, SNF, Outpatient, Home Health, ANY.

Summary of strengths and weaknesses:

Weakness: The Description and Validation manual may be a little confusing for some. It does not lay out certain specifics about validity and scoring procedures. It assumes that the testing manual and score sheets will be understood by themselves. Because the test manuals and score sheet are easily understood this is not a big problem.

Strength: The MEAMS is a short and simple screening tool useful for assessing gross impairment of cognitive skills. It provides a quick way to identify if a patient may need further assessment and evaluation regarding their cognitive skills. The test manuals and score sheets are easy to understand and follow as well.