Outcome Measure	**Brief Assessment of Social Skills (BASS)**
Sensitivity to Change	Not known
Population	Adult
How to obtain	Contact the authors
Domain	Social Cognition
Type of Measure	Objective performance-based test
Time to administer	**30-40 minutes (Full version). Short version being developed.**
Description	The BASS-D (Kelly & McDonald, 2020a) is a test designed to assess social skills in dementia comprising five subtests 1. Face Emotion Perception Task (54 items: max = 54) using photos to be labelled (Part A – basic emotions, B - basic emotions in context and C- more complex emotions) and matched (Part D). 2. Facial identification Task (16 items: max = 48): Famous faces from the 1930's through 1970's. Examinees had to say whether they recognised the *person, their name and what are they known for?* 3. Empathy/Theory of Mind Task (19 items: max=133): Participants shown images of social scenes and asked four questions: *What is the main character feeling?* (free response or selected from options); *What is happening in the scene?* (correct/ incorrect)*; How affected are you by seeing this scene?* (rated 0 = nothing/not at all, to 2 = very worked up); *How concerned are you for the main character?* 0 (not at all) to 2 (very concerned); *Would you do anything if you saw this happening in real life?* (Yes/No). 4. Social Disinhibition: two tasks i. Social Inhibition Part I: (10 items: max = 5). Participant views 5 images of 2 people, one behaving in a socially undesirable manner with a one sentence explanation and asked to respond with the first thing that comes to mind about the character. Participant shown another five items (Inhibition Condition) and asked respond with the first thing that comes to mind that is not negative or derogatory, i.e., inhibit the response. The overall number of items that yielded a disinhibited response in the Inhibition Condition provided the total score out of five. Higher scores indicate greater disinhibition. i. Social Disinhibition Part II was a modified Stroop naming task where participants have to inhibit self-relevant responses (i.e. their own name). Completion time and errors were recorded. Scores were calculated as the difference between the inhibition and reading conditions for both completion time and errors. ii. Social Reasoning Task (5 items: max score = 5): Examinees shown image of an awkward social situation (e.g. person sprawled from fallen bike in front of walkers). Asked "what's wrong here?" (scored 1 or 0) and choose from subsequent multiple (4) choice response (scored 1 or 0 for best answer). 5. Memory for Familiar Faces Task (4 items: maximum score = 4): Examinees choose which of 4 faces (2 new, 2 from emotion perception test) they have seen before (scored 0 or 1) for each item.
Properties	Internal consistency: N/A Test-retest reliability- N/A Convergent validity: In a mixed sample of people with dementia and healthy adults, BASS subtests correlated with similar measures e.g. BASS Emotion perception correlated with TASIT EET (r = .81), BASS Face identity correlated with NUFFACE (healthy adults only: r = 0.604), BASS Empathy correlated with BEES (self-report) (r = 0.37), BASS Social

	Disinhibition Part II correlated with WMS-IV, Brief Cognitive Examination -Inhibition subtest (time r =.56, errors [healthy controls only]: r = 0.43; BASS Social reasoning correlated with TASIT Part 3 (r = .320). However, BASS Face Memory did not correlate with a similar measure (WMSIII Face Memory) (Kelly & McDonald, 2020b) Discriminative validity: All subtests of BASS, except for the Face memory subtests discriminated people with dementia from healthy controls (Kelly & McDonald, 2020b) Concurrent Validity: BASS Total score is correlated with a general cognitive measure (ACE-III) especially the attention, memory and language domains of the ACE-III. The BASS is also associated with years since diagnosis, a proxy for dementia severity (Kelly & McDonald, 2020b) Normative data: N/A
Advantages	• Provides a comprehensive assessment of social cognition and inhibition in people with dementia filling a current gap
Disadvantages	• Needs further research to establish psychometric properties and normative data
Access	Availability from the authors

References

Kelly, M., & McDonald, S. (2020a). Assessing social cognition in people with a diagnosis of dementia: Development of a novel screening test, the Brief Assessment of Social Skills (BASS-D). *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology, 42*(2), 185-198. doi:doi/full/10.1080/13803395.2019.1700925

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