

Purpose

- The FAD is a 60-item assessment measure of individual family members' perceptions of family functioning, based on principles of the McMaster Model of Family Functioning (MMFF)

Administration

- Family members age (12+) with an 8th grade reading level can complete the measure
- Administration, on average, takes 10-20 minutes
- Administration and scoring may be accomplished by agency personnel who have been trained in the administration of psychological tests to individuals and groups
- For each item, the respondent indicates how much they agree (strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree) with the statement



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
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FAD Quick Guide

McMaster Family Assessment Device (FAD)

Completed by family members age (12+) during the first and last EBP treatment session and every 6 months, if treatment continues, for the EBP, Families Overcoming Under Stress (FOCUS)

Clinical Utility

- Assesses family functioning from the perspective of each family member
- A tool to encourage family members to better understand each other's' points of view
- A measure of change over the course of treatment

Clinical Scales

PROBLEM SOLVING (6 ITEMS) – Clinical Cutoff $\geq 2.20^*$

Ability to resolve troubles that threaten the family's integrity and performance, in a manner that preserves the family's functioning

COMMUNICATION (9 ITEMS) – Clinical Cutoff $\geq 2.20^*$

The clarity of content in verbal messages sent by family members to one another and directness of communication to the message's intended receiver

ROLES (11 ITEMS) – Clinical Cutoff $\geq 2.30^*$

Ability to clearly and responsibly establish behavior patterns for handling functions including resource provision, nurturance and support, support of individual development, managing family systems, and sexual gratification among adults

AFFECTIVE RESPONSIVENESS (6 ITEMS) – Clinical Cutoff $\geq 2.20^*$

Family members' experience of appropriate affect from each other over a range of situations, with special consideration of emotions conveyed in emergencies

AFFECTIVE INVOLVEMENT (7 ITEMS) – Clinical Cutoff $\geq 2.10^*$

Family members' interest in and value of each other's concerns and activities

BEHAVIORAL CONTROL (9 ITEMS) – Clinical Cutoff $\geq 1.90^*$

How family members express and maintain behavioral standards

GENERAL FUNCTIONING (12 ITEMS) – Clinical Cutoff $\geq 2.00^*$

Overall health/pathology of the family

*Greater than or equal to cutoff score equals unhealthy functioning on that clinical scale; less than the cutoff score equals healthy functioning.

Scoring Information

- Review to make sure each item has only one response
- Items are scored (1 = strongly agree, 2 = agree, 3 = disagree, 4 = strongly disagree)
- Some items are then reverse scored by subtracting 5 from the original score
- Scale considered invalid if $\geq 40\%$ of its items are left blank
- Scale score is derived by calculating the average (mean) score of all items answered that comprise that scale
- Note scale scores that are at or above the clinical cutoff