

Cognitive Abilities Rating Scale (CARS™)

Person's Name: _____ Sex: M F DOB: _____

Rater's Name: _____ Date: _____

Instructions for Raters: Everyone has different cognitive strengths and weaknesses. This instrument is designed to assess how a person demonstrates various cognitive abilities in a number of different areas. It can be used to evaluate changes in cognitive functioning. Please read each descriptive word and its behavioral definition and then rate how this individual functions in this area compared to peers his or her age. Base your rating on any observations and experience you have had with them during the last two weeks. Circle the numerical rating which best reflects your judgment for each cognitive ability. Please fill-in **ALL** items using your best judgment. Please do not leave any items blank.

A. CMEN: Control of Mental Energy		Not at all		Often			Always	
1	Focused - stays engaged and on task when given repetitive exercises to practice	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Sustained - maintains accuracy and speed over time without any significant decline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Motivated - makes efforts to learn and perform new tasks with positive "can do" attitude	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Flexible - shows ability to attend to cues that increase accuracy and/or speed	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Total CMEN Score (Max = 28) _____

B. CCOG: Control of Cognitive Processes

1	Discriminative - demonstrates the ability to stay focused on "targets" and ignore irrelevant stimuli	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Detailed - attends to relevant new details of information being processed in order to improve accuracy of responses	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Balanced - uses information presented wisely for the purpose at-hand and does not over-focus	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Connected - integrates new and old information together to improve accuracy and speed	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	Oriented - actively and continuously processes information to improve performance; avoiding tangential thoughts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Total CCOG Score (Max = 35) _____

C. CPRO: Control of Productive Work

		Not at all			Often			Always
1	Consistent - concentrated, directed performance without erratic responding	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Envisions - foresees solutions and strategies that lead to improved performance	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Cautious - shows carefulness in making accurate responses; avoiding reckless responses	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Thoughtful - response pattern reflects appropriate inhibition in order to avoid errors	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	Controlled - demonstrates good gross and fine motor control when working	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	Timely - exercises awareness of need to respond appropriately given time constraints	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	Aware - is able to understand and comply with work tasks in the context of their environment	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	Savvy - learns from their own errors and experience without help and applies this knowledge to new tasks successfully	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Total CPRO Score (Max = 56) _____

D. CCOM: Control in Communication

1	Switches - is flexible in their thinking and uses feedback to change cognitive strategies according to the requirements of the immediate task	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	Extracts - quickly processes and understands the meaning of brief written or spoken communication	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Self-Corrects - recognizes their own errors and self-corrects written or spoke communication without prompting in their work	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Comprehends - grasps the overall meaning of substantial written or spoke communication such as a passage in reading or lecture presentation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	Integrates - benefits from and understands visual cues when communicated in conjunction with verbal information	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Total CCOM Score (Max = 35) _____

Grand Total CARS Score (Max = 154) _____