

Assessment tools

Key: ASD – Autism Spectrum Disorder; ID – Intellectual disability; PMD – Profound, multiple disabilities; QoL – Quality of life

Psychopathology

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
Reiss Screen for Maladaptive Behaviour (RSMB; Reiss, 1988) http://www.idspublishing.com/scree/en/	16 years+	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe/ Profound	Structure: Adult version: The functioning of an individual is rated for 38 key symptoms of psychopathology. Child version: 60 symptoms of psychopathology are rated by teachers, family or caregivers who know the child well. Purpose: Screens for mental health problems for individuals with ID. Aids in identifying individuals who need further psychiatric assessment.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Reiss Scales for Children's Dual Diagnosis http://www.idspublishing.com/scales/	4-21 years			
Diagnostic Assessment for the Severely Handicapped-II (DASH-II; Matson et al., 1991) http://www.disabilityconsultants.org/DASHII.php	Child/ Adult	Severe/ Profound	Structure: 84-item, 13-subscale broad-based measure of psychopathology. Based on DMS-IV-TR classifications. Purpose: Assists in diagnosis of psychopathology in people with severe or profound ID.	Assessed by: Psychiatrist/ specialist mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Emotional Problem Scales: Self Report Inventory (EPS-S; Prout & Strohmer, 1991)	Adult	Borderline/ Mild	Structure: 147-item, 5-subscale measure. Purpose: To assess maladaptive behaviours and emotional problems through self-report.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report
Emotional Problem Scale: Behaviour Rating Scales (EPS-R; Strohmer & Prout, 1991)			Structure: 135-item, 5-subscale measure. Purpose: To assess maladaptive behaviours and emotional problems through informant ratings	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Moss Psychiatric Assessment Schedules (Moss-PAS; Moss et al., 1998) https://www.moss-pas.com/	Child/ Adolescent/ Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: A suite of mental health assessments for people with ID. The suite includes clinical interview procedures – Moss-PAS (Diag ID), Moss-PAS (ID) and Moss-PAS (ChA) – and a 25-item checklist: Moss-PAS (Check). Purpose: The Moss-PAS (Check) can be used as a screening tool by family/carers and mental health professionals. The Moss-PAS (ID) can be used by specially trained mental health professionals to identify mental health problems and determine whether further assessment is required.	Assessed by: Specially trained mental health professional Answered by: Self-report and/or informant

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			The Moss-PAS (Diag ID) and Moss-PAS (ChA) can be used by specially trained mental health professionals (usually psychologists and psychiatrists) for diagnosis of mental disorder in people with ID.	
Psychopathology Inventory for Mentally Retarded Adults (PIMRA; Matson et al., 1984) http://www.disabilityconsultants.org/PIMRA.php	Adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: 56 items representing 7 classes of psychopathology based on DSM-III criteria plus one additional subscale. Purpose: A screening tool to aid in the differential diagnosis of individuals with ID. Checklist of abnormal behaviour used to plan treatments, evaluate the effects of mental health treatment and diagnose psychopathology in people with ID.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Family/support people familiar with the person rates each item
Assessment of Dual Diagnosis (ADD; Matson, 1997) http://www.disabilityconsultants.org/ADD.php	Adult	Mild/ Moderate	Structure: 79-item screening instrument, representing 13 diagnostic categories including mania, depression, anxiety, PTSD, substance abuse, somatoform disorders, dementia, conduct disorder, pervasive developmental disorder, schizophrenia, personality disorders, eating disorders and sexual disorders. Purpose: To screen for psychopathology in adults with ID.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Glasgow Anxiety Scale for People with an Intellectual Disability (GAS-ID; Mindham & Espie, 2003)	Adult	Mild/ Moderate	Structure: 27-item self-report assessment that measures worries, specific fears and physiological symptoms. Purpose: To assess for anxiety disorders in adults with ID.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report

Mood

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
Anxiety, Depression and Mood Scales (ADAMS; Esbensen et al., 2003) https://eprovide.mapi-trust.org/instruments/anxiety-depression-and-mood-scale	10 years+	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe/ Profound	Structure: 25-item, 5 subscale measure of manic/hyperactive behaviour, depressed mood, social avoidance, general anxiety and compulsive behaviour. Purpose: Comprehensive screening for anxiety and depression in people with ID.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Depression in Adults with Intellectual Disability Checklist (Torr & Iacono, 2006)	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: One-page checklist to be completed by a support person prior to attending	Assessed by: Mental health professional

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https://cddh.monashhealth.org/index.php/depression-in-adults-with-intellectual-disability-checklist/			a medical or mental health consultation. Purpose: Screening for depression in people with intellectual disability who are unable to report their own feelings/symptoms.	Answered by: Informant (specifically designed to be completed by paid carers)
Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K10; Kessler et al., 2002) https://www.tac.vic.gov.au/files-to-move/media/upload/k10_english.pdf	Adult	Borderline/ Mild	Structure: 10-item measure of global distress based on questions about anxiety and depressive symptoms over a 4-week period. Purpose: To assess and monitor distress.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report with support person's assistance if required
Mood and Anxiety Semi-structured Interview for Patients with Intellectual Disability (MASS; Charlot et al., 2007)	Adult	Moderate/ Severe	Structure: The MASS asks informants to identify the occurrence of 'behavioural descriptions', which correspond to symptoms of mood disorders (including anxiety, worry, depressed mood and anhedonia). Purpose: Used for diagnosis of mood disorder.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Self-report Depression Questionnaire (SRDQ; Reynolds & Baker, 1988)	Adolescent/ Adult	Mild	Structure: 32-item measure of depression based on DSM-III-R classifications. Purpose: Assessment of symptoms of depression.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report
Glasgow Depression Scale for People with a Learning Disability (GDS-LD; Cuthill et al., 2003)	Adult	Mild/ Moderate	Structure: 20-item self-report scale that measures symptoms of depression, such as sadness, fatigue, attention and suicide ideation. There is also a 16-item respondent-informed scale, which asks carers about potential symptoms of depression they have noticed in the person with ID. Purpose: To assess for depression in adults with ID.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report and informant
Mood, Interest and Pleasure Questionnaire (MIPQ; Ross & Oliver, 2003)	Adult	Severe/ Profound	Structure: 25-item informant-report measure for depressive disorders, based on DSM-IV criteria. Purpose: To detect symptoms of depression in people with ID.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant

Behaviour and emotion

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Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
Measurement domain: Behavioural and emotional problems				
Developmental Behaviour Checklist (DBC; Einfeld & Tonge, 2002) https://www.monash.edu/medicine/scs/psychiatry/research/developmental/clinical-research/dbc	4-18 years	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: Questionnaire completed by family, support person or teacher reporting behaviour and emotional problems over a 6-month period. 5 versions are available. A monitoring checklist is also available for specific behaviours. Purpose: Can be used in clinical practice, in assessments and monitoring interventions or research. Different versions have different uses (e.g. the DBC-ASA can be used for autism screening).	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Family member/teacher
Developmental Behaviour Checklist for Adults (DBC-A; Mohr et al., 2005) https://www.monash.edu/medicine/scs/psychiatry/research/developmental/clinical-research/dbc	Adult/ Older Adult/ ASD			Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Family member/paid support person
Measurement domain: Challenging behaviour				
Aberrant Behaviour Checklist (ABC; Aman et al., 1985). ABC-residential and ABC-community versions http://www.slossonnews.com/ABC.html	5-54 years	Moderate/ Severe/ Profound	Structure: 58-item, 5-subscale measure of irritability, agitation and crying; lethargy and social withdrawal; stereotypic behaviour; hyperactivity and non-compliance; and inappropriate speech. 10-15 minutes to complete. Purpose: To assess the affects of treatment or other variables on behaviour; to monitor behaviour over time.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Assessments for Adults with Developmental Disabilities (AADS; Kalsy et al., 2002)	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: 28 items measured on a 7-point scale. For each item, informant rates how often the behaviour occurs, management difficulty and effect. Purpose: A support person checklist assessing behavioural deficits and excesses that may cause difficulties.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
The Behaviour Problems Inventory (BPI; Rojahn et al., 2001)	Adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe/ Profound	Structure: 52-item inventory. Each item is rated on frequency and severity. Purpose: Assesses self-injurious, stereotypical, and aggressive or destructive behaviour.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Achenbach System of Empirically Based Research – Adult Scales (ABCL/ASR; Achenbach & Rescorla, 2003) https://aseba.org/adults/	18-59 years	Mild	Structure: Self-report checklist and respondent-informed checklist containing scales for adaptive functioning, substance use, empirically based syndromes, internalising, externalising and total problems.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report and informant

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			Purpose: To assess behavioural problems, including diverse aspects of adaptive functioning and behavioural problems.	
Adult Scale of Hostility and Aggression: Reactive/Proactive (A-SHARP; Matlock & Aman, 2014) http://disabilitymeasures.org/a-sharp/	Adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe/ Profound	Structure: 58-item scale, measuring two dimensions (severity and/or frequency of the behaviours in question, and the degree to which the behaviour is thought to be instrumental/proactive or reactive). Purpose: To assess aggressive and hostile behaviour in adults with intellectual or developmental disorders.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
Measurement domain: Adaptive and maladaptive behaviour				
Scales of Independent Behavior-Revised (SIB-R; Bruininks et al., 1996) https://www.riversideinsights.com/p/scales-of-independent-behavior-revised-sib-r-complete-package/	Three months to 80+ years	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: A structured clinical assessment or checklist. A comprehensive, norm referenced assessment of 14 areas of adaptive behaviour and 8 areas of maladaptive behaviour, in school, home, employment and the community. Purpose: Can be used to determine clinical interventions, develop support plans and assess outcomes.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant structured interview or checklist
Adaptive Behaviour Assessment System – 3 rd edition, various versions (ABAS-III; Harrison & Oakland, 2015) https://www.pearsonclinical.com.au/products/view/564	Birth to 89 years	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: An adaptive behaviour assessment tool that covers the lifespan with age-specific versions. It covers 11 essential skill areas within 3 major domains of adaptive skills: conceptual, social and practical. 15-20 minutes to complete. Purpose: Used to assess strengths and weaknesses in people with ID, developmental disability, ADHD and other disorders. Can also assist in diagnosing and classifying various developmental, learning and behavioural disabilities and disorders.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Multi-informant: family, teacher and adult (self-or others) forms
Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scales-III (Vineland-III; Sparrow et al., 2016) https://www.pearsonclinical.com.au/products/view/580	Birth to 90 years	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: An assessment tool that measures 4 domains of adaptive behaviour (communication, daily living skills, socialisation and motor skills) and maladaptive behaviour. Purpose: Used to identify ID, developmental delay, ASD and other disorders.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant (caregiver and teacher)
Measurement domain: Compulsive/repetitive behaviours				

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Compulsive Behaviour Checklist (CBC; Gedy, 1992)	Adult	Moderate/ Severe	<p>Structure: 25-item instrument designed to collect information about observable compulsive behaviour. It is completed as a caregiver interview or survey and takes 5-10 minutes.</p> <p>Purpose: Assists in assessing the severity of obsessions in obsessive compulsive disorder. [This checklist may not be valid for specific ID populations such as Prader-Willi Syndrome (Feurer et al., 1998)].</p>	<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Informant</p>
Repetitive Behaviour Questionnaire-2 (RBQ-2; Leekam et al., 2007) http://disabilitymeasures.org/RBQ-2/	15-35 months	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	<p>Structure: 20-item, 5-subscale measure of repetitive behaviours (in individuals with and without ASD; verbal or nonverbal).</p> <p>Purpose: Developed for research purposes but is currently being studied for use as a clinical tool to supplement diagnosis of ASD.</p>	<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Informant</p>
Adult Repetitive Behaviour Questionnaire-2 (RBQ-2A; Barrett et al., 2015) http://disabilitymeasures.org/RBQ-2A/	Adults			<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Self-report/informant</p>
Measurement domain: Forensic				
The Assessment of Risk and Manageability of Individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Limitations who Offend (ARMIDILO-S; Boer et al., 2013). http://www.armidilo.net/	Adult	Borderline/ Mild	<p>Structure: 30-item structured risk assessment tool to assess stable and acute dynamic factors, such as offenders, staff attitudes towards people with ID, and environmental consistency.</p> <p>Purpose: Assesses of risk and manageability of sexual offending in offenders with intellectual and developmental disability.</p>	<p>Assessed by: Specially trained facilitators</p> <p>Answered by: Self-report and informant</p>

Autism Spectrum Disorder

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
The Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS; Lord et al., 2000) https://www.pearsonclinical.com.au/products/view/502	Child/ Adult/ ASD	Borderline/ Mild/ Moderate/ Severe/ Profound	<p>Structure: A semi-structured, standardised assessment of communication, social interaction, and play for individuals who have been referred for ASD testing. Can be used to evaluate children with no speech to verbally fluent; and adults with phrase speech to verbally fluent.</p> <p>Purpose: To assess and diagnose ASD.</p>	<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Semi-structured observational assessment administered by clinician</p>

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Dementia

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
Dementia Questionnaire for People with Intellectual Disability (DLD; Evenhuis et al., 2006) https://www.pearsonclinical.com.au/products/view/113	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: 50-item questionnaire that covers 8 subscales. Purpose: To assess daily living skills and identify social and cognitive declines for early detection of dementia.	Assessed by: Health professional Answered by: Informant
Dementia Screening Questionnaire for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (DSQIID / NTG-DSDS; Deb et al., 2007) https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/documents/college-les/psych/ld/iddementiascreeningquestionnaire.pdf	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: 53-item checklist of 'best' function, areas of decline, and overall observations. Single (DSQIID) Sequential (NTG-DSDS) Purpose: Can help carers record functioning and assist health professionals to screen for dementia.	Assessed by: Health professional Answered by: Informant
Adaptive Behaviour in Dementia Questionnaire (ABDQ; Prasher et al., 2004)	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: A short 15-item questionnaire. Purpose: Used to detect change in adaptive behaviour to screen for dementia in Alzheimer's disease in adults with Down syndrome. Based on items of the Adaptive Behaviour Scale shown to decline in Down syndrome Alzheimer's disease.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
The Cambridge Examination for Mental Disorders of Older People with Down's Syndrome and Others with Intellectual Disabilities (CAMDEX-DS; Ball et al., 2006) https://www.cambridge.org/au/academic/subjects/medicine/mental-health-psychiatry-and-clinical-psychology/camdex-ds-cambridge-examination-mental-disorders-older-people-downs-syndrome-and-others-intellectual-disabilities?format=SP&isbn=9780521547949	Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: Structured informant interview adapted from CAMDEX, which aligns symptoms to DSM-IV Administered once, but could be repeated over time. Accompanied by the CAMCOG-DS assessment Purpose: Assesses a detailed history of cognitive and daily living skills, mood and functional declines over time. Used for diagnosis of cognitive disorder.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Semi-structured informant interview
Cambridge Cognitive Examination – Down's Syndrome Version (CAMCOG-DS version; Ball et al., 2006)		Mild/ Moderate	Structure: Neuropsychological component of the CAMDEX-DS and adaptation of the CAMCOG. Purpose: To directly assess cognitive function for diagnosis of cognitive disorder.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Direct assessment of person with ID
Gedye Dementia Scale for Down Syndrome (G-DSDS; Gedye, 1995) http://www.gedye.ca/	Adult	Severe/ Profound	Structure: 60-item respondent-informed interview about changes in the	Assessed by: Psychologist/ Psychometrist

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			<p>person's cognitive ability and daily living skills.</p> <p>Purpose: To assess for early, middle or late stages of dementia and provide for differential diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease, dementia with depression, hyperthyroidism and visual and hearing impairments.</p>	<p>Answered by: Informant</p>
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Cognitive function

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
Measurement domain: Cognition				
<p>Prudhoe Test of Cognitive Function (Margallo-Lana et al., 2003)</p> <p>https://research.ncl.ac.uk/pctf/</p>	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate	<p>Structure: Assessment of 5 domains. 3 versions of the test are available but all rely heavily on verbal responses.</p> <p>Purpose: Used to test cognitive function and cognitive decline over time. Designed specifically for cognitive assessment of people with ID.</p>	<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Direct assessment of person with ID</p>
Measurement domain: Memory				
Cued Recall Test, adapted (see Devenny et al., 2002 for how to adapt)	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate	<p>Structure: Memory test that uses verbal communication and pictures.</p> <p>Purpose: Used to assess memory (encoding, recall and retrieval) and captures early cognitive decline associated with Alzheimer's disease in people with mild and moderate ID.</p>	<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Direct assessment of person with ID</p>
Fuld Object Memory Test, modified (see Sano et al., 2005 for how to modify for ID)	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	<p>Structure: Memory test that uses objects rather than pictures. Short testing session.</p> <p>Purpose: Used to assess learning and memory recall. Assists in assessment of cognitive decline in people with ID.</p>	<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Direct assessment of person with ID</p>
Measurement domain: Executive function				
Scrambled Boxes Test (Ball et al., 2008)	Adult/ Older adult	Mild/ Moderate	<p>Structure: Neuropsychological assessment where the individual is required to find hidden objects.</p> <p>Purpose: Used to assess working memory and response inhibition in people with ID.</p>	<p>Assessed by: Mental health professional</p> <p>Answered by: Direct assessment of person with ID</p>

Needs

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
Measurement domain: Mental, physical health and social needs				

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Camberwell Assessment of Need for Adults with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (CANDID; Xenitidis et al., 2003) https://eprovide.mapi-trust.org/instruments/camberwell-assessment-of-need-for-adults-with-developmental-and-intellectual-disabilities	Adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: The CANDID assesses met and unmet needs in 25 areas. It has been developed and tested by a multidisciplinary team at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience in London. Purpose: Designed for mental health staff to undertake a comprehensive assessment of needs for use with adults with an ID.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Perspectives of service user, staff and informal support persons considered
Measurement domain: Behaviour and support needs				
Inventory for Client and Agency Planning (ICAP) https://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/disabilities/docs/icap-fact-sheet.pdf	Child/ Adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: 16-page booklet. Different domains rated across various scales. Purpose: A widely used assessment that can be used for children and adults with ID. Gathers detailed information about adaptive and maladaptive behaviours as well as specific support needs to help determine level of care.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Family, support person or teacher
Waisman-Activities of Daily Living Scale (W-ADL; Maenner et al., 2013)	Adolescent/ Adult/ ASD	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe/ Profound	Structure: 17-item scale on daily activities the individual can (or cannot) do (or do with help). E.g. dressing, setting table, banking. Purpose: Used to assess level or type of support required.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report or informant
Measurement domain: Support needs				
Instrument for the Classification and Assessment of Support Needs (I-CAN v6; Llewellyn et al., 2005) http://www.i-can.org.au/	16 years +	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: Assessment interview. Purpose: The I-CAN v6 is a support needs assessment, planning and resource allocation tool designed to assess and guide support delivery for people with disabilities including people with mental health concerns.	Assessed by: Certified facilitator Answered by: Self-report and informant

Quality of life

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
WHO Quality of Life – for persons with disability (WHOQOL-DIS; WHOQOL Group, 1995) Used in conjunction with the WHO Quality of Life-BREF	Adult	Mild/ Moderate/ Severe	Structure: Different versions of the WHOQOL are available. The WHOQOL-BREF is a 26-item measure and the WHOQOL-DIS is an add-on module that can be used with the WHOQOL-BREF. Measurement domains include physical and psychological	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Self-report or informant

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https://www.who.int/mental_health/publications/whoqol/en/			health, social relationships, and environment. Purpose: QoL assessments can be used to inform clinical decision-making, assist in support planning and development of goals, contribute to evaluation of individual treatment or health services, or be used in research.	
The Life Satisfaction Matrix (LSM; Lyons, 2005)	Child/ Adolescent/ Adult	PMD	Structure: An observational assessment based on key assumptions. Purpose: Measure of life satisfaction in people with PMDs using assessment of consistent behavioural repertoires. Assumes that QoL can be improved by spending time taking part in activities the individual enjoys.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Two informants

Social functioning

Assessment measure	Age group	Level of ID	Description/structure	Administration
The Matson Evaluation of Social Skills for Individuals with Severe Retardation (MESSIER; Matson, 1995) http://www.disabilityconsultants.org/MESSIER.php	Adult	Severe/ Profound	Structure: 85-item questionnaire grouped into 6 clinical subscales. Purpose: Designed to provide information on communication and general social skills behaviour that can be identified both for treatment goals and to evaluation treatment efficacy.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant
The Social Performance Survey Schedule (SPSS; Matson et al., 1983) http://www.disabilityconsultants.org/SPSS.php	Adult	Mild/ Moderate	Structure: 57-item questionnaire. Purpose: To assess the strengths and deficits of social skills in people with ID and identify treatment goals.	Assessed by: Mental health professional Answered by: Informant