

Assessing person specific, real world 'function' with people who have difficulty processing and responding to information

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Introduction:

- 'Function' is conceptualized as the ability to perceive, recall, plan and perform person-specific occupations in real world contexts.
- Standardized assessments of functional cognition measure performance on pre-determined tasks against established standards in controlled situations.
- Standardization protocols limit person-specific application raising questions about validity, real world relevance and cultural safety.
- Assessments that measure person-specific 'function' are needed but are not easily understood when critiqued from traditional test construction perspectives.

Objective:

Describe an innovative, evidence-based occupational therapy approach to assessing 'functional cognition' that can be used with anyone doing anything.

The Perceive, Recall, Plan and Perform Assessment (PRPP-A)

PRPP-A Stage One: Performance Mastery

Mastery is strengths oriented. It refers to how well a person performs person-specific occupations in real world contexts to a person-specific criterion.

Occupations assessed

Any person-specific, meaningful task, routine, role, skill set or social interaction



Procedural Task Analysis methodology

Fishing:



**Criterion:
100%**

ITEMS	Tasks / Skills			
	ERRORS			
	Acc	Om	Rep	Time
COLLECT / PACK EQUIPMENT	X			X
COLLECT / PACK SUPPLIES	X	X		
TRANSPORT TO FISHING SPOT				X
BAIT HOOK	X			
CAST				
CATCH				
REMOVE FISH	X			
TRANSPORT BACK				X
UNPACK / PUT AWAY	X	X		

ERRORS: Accuracy – Omission – Repetition - Timing

Mastery = # error free steps divided by total steps; i.e., 2/9 = 22% mastery

**Outcome goals: Changes in % mastery
Accurate, Complete, w/o Repetition, Timely**

The Perceive, Recall, Plan and Perform Assessment (PRPP-A)

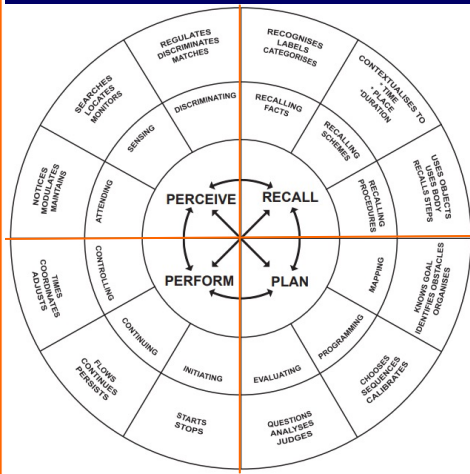
PRPP-A Stage Two: Cognitive Strategy Use

Purpose: Identify reasons for Stage One errors from an information processing view of cognition.

**PRPP Stage Two Conceptual Model:
Quadrants, Processing operations, Cognitive strategies**

Perceive
Attending
Sensing
Discriminating

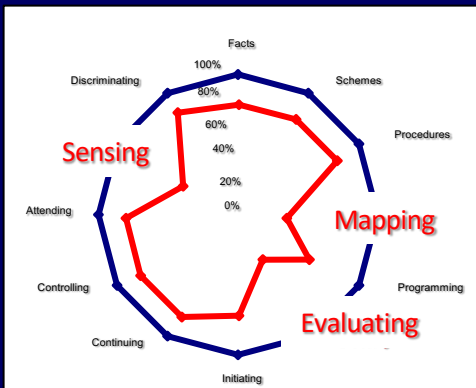
Perform
Initiating,
Continuing,
Controlling



Recall
Recalling Facts
Schemes,
Procedures

Plan
Mapping,
Programming,
Evaluating

**Strategies (outer ring) scored 3-2-1 for Stage One impact.
Sub-quadrant operation percentages plotted to show
strategy use strengths and difficulties**



Goals: Stage Two strategies
e.g. Notice; Search/Find;
Recognise; Sequence; Analyse;
Start; Persist.

Intervention Cues/Prompts
Stop-Attend-Sense-Think
(Recall / Figure out)-Do.

Conclusion: The PRPP-A assessment of functional cognition enables therapists to focus on person-specific, real-world needs and address cognitive strategy use necessary for occupational performance.