

Lawton's Activities of Daily Living Assessment

Service User Code _____

Item number	Item	Score	Task	Begin Score	Finish Score
1	Telephone	1 2 3 4	Cannot use telephone at all Can answer telephone but cannot dial Can dial a few well-known numbers. Includes dialling only numbers that can be speed dialled. Can operate telephone on own initiative - looks up and dials numbers etc. Includes use of TTY machine if no other assistance required.		
2	Shopping (do not include transport here -rate at item 6)	1 2 3 4	Completely unable to shop Needs to be accompanied on any shopping trip Can shop independently for small purchases Can take care of all shopping needs independently		
3	Food preparation	1 2 3 4	Needs to have meals prepared and served Can heat and serve prepared meals, or can prepare meals but not does maintain adequate diet (see note below) Can prepare adequate meals if supplied with ingredients Can plan, prepare, serve adequate meals independently		
4	Housekeeping	1 2 3 4	Cannot participate in any housekeeping tasks Can perform some light daily tasks but not at a level necessary to maintain an acceptable standards of cleanliness (see note below) Can perform light daily tasks eg dishwashing, dusting Can maintain house independently		
5	Laundry (excludes ironing)	1 2 3 4	All laundry must be done by others Can launder small items - rinses socks, stockings etc Can do personal laundry but needs help with heavier items such as bedding and towels Can do personal laundry completely		
6	Mode of transportation	1 2 3 4	Requires manual assistance from more than 1 person or does not travel at all Travel limited to taxi or automobile with assistance of one other person Can travel on public transportation when assisted or accompanied by another Can travel independently on public transportation or can drive own car or can arrange own travel via taxi.		
7	Responsibility for own medications	1 2 3	Is not capable of dispensing own medication Can take responsibility if medication is prepared in advance in separate dosages Can take responsibility for taking medications in correct dosage at correct time		
8	Ability to handle finances	1 2 3	Incapable of handling money Can manage day-to-day purchases, but needs help with banking, major purchases etc Can manage financial matters independently (budgets, writes cheques, pays rent, bills, goes to bank), collects and keeps track of income		
Total score (out of 30)					
Date assessed					

General rating instructions

1. Rate what the person is currently capable of doing rather than what they actually do. In assessing capability, take into account not only physical function but also cognition (such as problems caused by dementia or an intellectual disability) and behaviour (such as unpredictable challenging behaviour). Consumers able to complete a task with verbal prompting should not be rated as independent (and therefore should be rated as a 2 or a 3).
2. In rating an item that is irrelevant (for example, the person does not have a phone or has no shops in the vicinity or does not use any medications), rate based on what the person would be capable of doing if the item was actually relevant to their situation.
3. When assessing issues such as whether diet is adequate or there are acceptable standards of cleanliness, take into account the person's social and cultural context. Rate based on what is adequate or acceptable in that context and not in your own.