

Instrument	Communication Capacity Scale and Agitation Distress Scale NOTE: This card is populated with information from the instrument's original validation study only.
Acronym	CCS & ADS
Primary use	Communication capacity and agitated behavior measurement
Area assessed (Number of questions)	Communication Capacity Scale (CCS): conscious level, ability to answer open- and close-ended questions, achievement of voluntary communication and movement; 5 items Agitation Distress Scale (ADS): frequency, extent, and content of physical restlessness, psychological instability, hallucinations and delusions, and sleep disturbance; 6 items
Description	Observer-rated scales created to be able to quantify patients' communication capacity and agitated behavior during delirium in the palliative care setting. CCS and ADS do not include all aspects of delirium and thus are not intended for delirium screening. Items for each scale are designed to be easily completed, do not require special participation or break from routine clinical practice, can be measured repeatedly, and are formatted as semi-structured interviews or operational criteria.
Versions	1
Scoring information	CCS: Items scored 0-3 or 0-5; total score ranges from 0-17 ADS: Total score ranges 0-18, scores are based on the most severe symptom presentation during observation period
Cognitive testing	Not included or necessary to complete rating
Estimated time to rate	<5-10 minutes; ADS items rated based on a 12 hour observation period
Require trained rater	Designed to be used by nurses or other clinical staff
Administer to	Patient receiving inpatient palliative care; in-person
How to obtain	Available for download at http://dx.doi.org/10.1191/026921601678576185 (Note: article may be located behind paywall)
Licensing Fee*	None
Languages available	Japanese, English
Highest COSMIN** rating	3.5/6
Test Performance Characteristics	Morita 2001 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-rater reliability: Cronbach's alpha coefficients = 0.91 CCS, 0.96 ADS; Cohen's kappa values on each item of 0.72-1.00 • Validity: CCS Compared to the: Memorial Delirium Assessment Scale [MDAS], rho=0.78; Sedation Scale, rho=0.86; cognitive items on the MDAS and Delirium Rating Scale [DRS] rho=0.83; ADS Compared to DRS, rho=0.61; compared to agitation items on MDAS and DRS, rho=0.61

* Fees and licensing information is effective as of 2018, but is subject to change over time

** COSMIN is used to rate a study's evaluation of a survey or test's measurement properties. COSMIN does NOT rate the instrument itself, but helps readers understand if they can have confidence in the results of studies evaluating measurement properties of surveys and tests. For example, a rigorous study evaluating a test with poor measurement properties will receive a "good" COSMIN rating, while a poorly-conducted study evaluating a test with good measurement properties will receive a "poor" COSMIN rating. Small sample size can impact all COSMIN ratings. You must consider both the COSMIN rating and the results of studies provided when forming your opinion about that test. *COSMIN ratings shown are based solely on the instrument's original validation study.*

Reference:

Morita, T., Tsunoda, J., Inoue, S., Chihara, S., Oka, K. (2001). Communication Capacity Scale and Agitation Distress Scale to measure the severity of delirium in terminally ill cancer patients: a validation study. *Palliative Medicine*, 15(3):197-206. Doi:10.1191/026921601678576185

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