

# Discrepancy Between Self-Report and Performance-Based Functional Cognitive Assessments



Occupational Therapy  
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## INTRODUCTION

- Occupational therapists often rely on client self-report of ADL/IADL tasks that are difficult to directly observe given the complexity and cost of conducting observational testing<sup>1</sup>
- Functional cognition tests evaluate ability to manage everyday IADL challenges and have been shown to identify risk of IADL impairment<sup>2,3,4</sup>
- Studies find that performance-based tests of functional cognition are superior predictors of real-world functioning and community independence<sup>2,3</sup>

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this study was to determine if self-report of ADL/IADL tasks vary based on scores on performance-based functional cognitions tests.

## METHODS

**Design and Participants**

- Cross-sectional sample of 200 participants over the age 55 living independently in the community

**Measures**

- Menu Task
- Medi-Cog (Mini-Cog + MTS-Revised)
- Performance Assessment of Self-Care Skills (PASS)
- Weekly Calendar Planning Activity (WCPA)
- Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study Activities of Daily Living (ADCS)

**Analyses**

- Descriptive statistics and frequency distributions (see Table 1)
- Pearson correlations among variables (see Table 2)
- Student's independent groups t-tests compared ADCS score for individuals unimpaired vs impaired on performance-based tests (see Figure 2)

## RESULTS

Table 1. Demographic and Assessment Scores

	Mean (SD), Range
Age	70.42 (8.27), 55-93
# Chronic Health Conditions	1.18 (1.27), 0-7
Education (yrs)	15.09 (3.04), 8-27
Menu Task	8.20 (2.02), 4-12
Medi-Cog	8.01 (1.88), 3-10
PSCT # Cues	10.08 (9.63), 0-48
WCPA Accuracy	10.08 (4.70), 0-17
ADCS	74.87 (4.69), 42-78
	<b>N (%)</b>
Female	153 (76.5)
White	160 (80.4)

Table 2. Correlations Between Demographics, Performance-Based Tests of Functional Cognition, and Self-Report ADL/IADL

	Age	Education	MT	Medi-Cog	PSCT	WCPA Accuracy
IADL						
ADCS	.07	.19*	.31*	.30*	-.27*	.40*
ADCS Total	.04	.19*	.29*	.31*	-.26*	.41*

\*Significant p < .05

Figure 1. Mean scores of Unimpaired and Impaired Groups

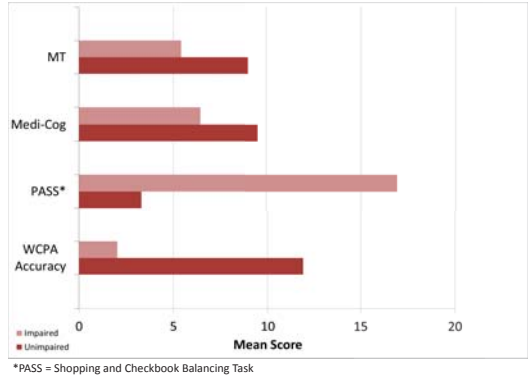


Figure 2. Student's Independent Groups T-Tests Comparing Mean ADCS Score

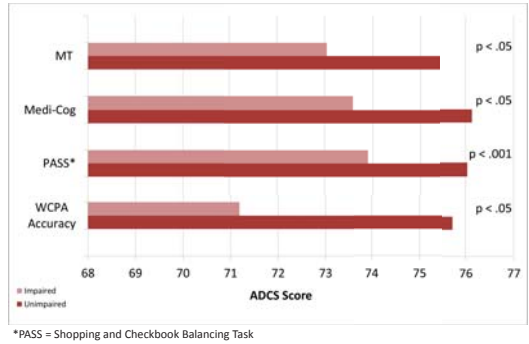
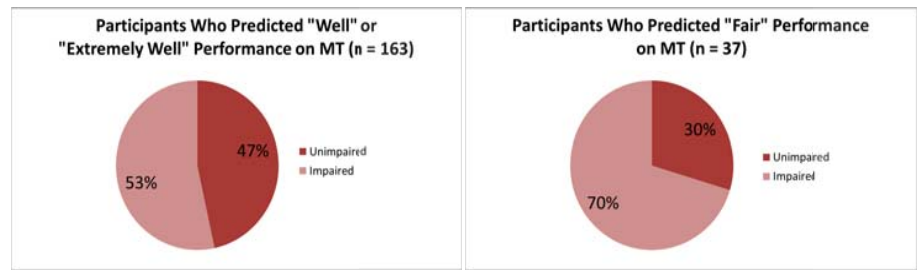


Figure 3. Metacognitive Predictions of IADL



## CONCLUSIONS

- Performance-based assessments of functional cognition are sensitive to impairment in community dwelling older adults
- Low to moderate correlations were found between scores on performance-based tests of functional cognition
- Significant differences were found in self-reported ADL/IADL in the majority of unimpaired vs impaired groups

## IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

- There may be important differences between how individuals report their ADL/IADL ability and objective evaluation
- Discrepancies exist between ADL/IADL self-report and actual assessed ability, and clinicians should supplement self-report with objective assessment when making discharge and clinical recommendations
- Functional cognitive testing is appropriate for community dwelling older adults

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