***VATA-ADL Instructions***

The scale comprises 23 sheets, each consisting of a question, for example ‘Do/Would you have difficulty making yourself a hot drink?’, a related drawing and a visual-analogue response scale. In total there are:

* 1 practice item
* 18 experimental items
* 4 check items

Responses are recorded by marking on the four point response scale, from *No Problem* to *Problem* the level of difficulty presented by the task. The four check items are included to ensure understanding of and compliance with the task. Two of these items must be accomplished by all patients with no difficulty, e.g. ‘recognising yourself in the mirror’, and two ought to be problematic for all patients, e.g. ‘swinging on a trapeze’. Any respondents not providing expected answers to the check questions are excluded from the analysis.

The VATA-ADL is designed to be completed by both the patient and also a carer or family member. The carer ratings provide a measure of ADL ability while the discrepancy between patient and carer scores provides a measure of the patient’s awareness of issues in their performance of day-to-day activities. Awareness scores are calculated by subtracting the patient’s total score from that of the carer. Scores can be negative or positive, with negative scores demonstrating under-estimation of abilities and positive scores demonstrating over-estimation (anosognosia).

The selected items are divided into three groups: basic self-care, extended activities in the home and extended activities outside the home.

**Procedure**

Questionnaire for patients should be completed independently of the caregiver version, on the same day where possible. Patients and caregivers should not discuss their responses with each other before the end of the testing phase.

First work through the demographic information with the patient.

Place each item in front of the respondent. If necessary, point to the stimuli or rating scale when/where appropriate. For each item, read aloud the entire question or just the core action. Emphasize that the question is about *the patient’s* *current* abilities and repeat it if necessary.

Read the following instructions to the patient while the practice item is on view:

*“You will be asked to tell me how well you can currently perform day to day activities. Each activity will be illustrated by a picture. I will read each question aloud and the question is also written at the top of the sheet. You will be asked to rate what you think is, or would be, your ability now in performing each activity. Below each picture there is a rating scale. Please state your ability by stating a number from 0 (no problem, you can perform this activity without any difficulty) to 3 (you have such serious difficulty with this activity that you would not be able to perform it). You can also provide the responses simply by pointing to the rating scale where appropriate. Let's try an example.”*

Work through the questionnaire, placing each item on the patient’s ipsilesional side. If necessary, point to the stimuli or rating scale when/where appropriate. For each item, read aloud the entire question or just the core action. Emphasize that the question is about the patient’s current abilities and repeat it if necessary

**Scoring:**

Examine the participant and caregiver scores for the four check items:

Items 4 and 13: These scores should be 0 or 1. If any other scores are given, please disregard the questionnaire and note on the datasheet that this questionnaire could not be included because of failure to answer the check questions correctly.

Items 9 and 19: These scores should be 2 or 3. If any other scores are given, please disregard the questionnaire and note on the datasheet that this questionnaire could not be included because of failure to answer the check questions correctly.

Note: A check question should be disregarded if the participants’ ability to perform the task is affected by associated difficulties (e.g., deafness for the ‘Hearing a megaphone’ question) or specific abilities (e.g., having being an acrobat for the ‘Swinging on a trapeze’ question).

Sum the scores from the six experimental items for each subscale, patient and caregiver versions, and add to the participant data sheet:

1. Self-care items (2, 3, 8, 14, 18, 21)

2. Activities inside the home (6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 22)

3. Activities outside the home (1, 5, 7, 11, 16, 17)

Subscale scores should be between 0 and 18.

Sum the scores for all items for the patient version and for the caregiver version. Total scores should be bewteen 0 and 54. Add these to the participant datasheet. Subtract the patient’s total score from the caregiver’s total score to provide a caregiver-patient discrepancy value. Please add this score (between -54 and + 54) to the participant datasheet.