Functional Assessment of Verbal Reasoning and Executive Strategies by Sheila MacDonald, M.Cl.Sc. SLP(C)

**Sufficiently Challenging to Detect Subtle Cognitive-Communication Deficits**
- Assesses verbal reasoning, complex comprehension, discourse, and executive functioning during performance on a set of challenging functional tasks.
- Requires processing of ‘real life’ amounts of information, analysis of several factors, integration of a variety of types of stimuli, and formulation of written and oral responses.

**Standardized on the ABI population**
- Standardized on adults with acquired brain injuries as well as a sample of non-injured controls (18-79 yrs). Individual performance can be compared to norms for time, accuracy, rationale, and a set of reasoning subskills.
- Sound reliability and validity with clinical trials demonstrating statistically significant differences between adults with ABI and non-injured controls.

**Reflective of Functioning in the Real World**
- Designed with ecological validity in mind FAVRES tasks simulate real world communications and incorporate context using natural settings, roles, and conversation.
- Qualitative and Quantitative aspects of performance are incorporated into the scoring
- Tasks require the examinee to:
  - Plan an Event
  - Schedule a Work day
  - Decide on a Gift
  - Build a Case to Solve a Common Problem

**Yields Clinically Relevant Information about Verbal Reasoning Performance**
FAVRES results form the basis for treatment planning by answering the following questions.

1. **Getting the Facts** – Can the person identify the most important facts?
2. **Eliminating Irrelevant Information** – Can the person identify and ignore less relevant information in order to focus on more important information?
3. **Weighing the Facts** – Can the person compare or weigh competing options or criteria?
4. **Flexibility** – Can the person revise a decision or plan of action when presented with new information?
5. **Generating of Alternatives** – Can the person efficiently generate a variety of solutions, options or alternatives?
6. **Predicting Consequences** – Can the person predict potential outcomes, pros and cons, or consequences of a choice?
7. **Providing a Rationale** – Can the person provide a rationale or a set of reasons for making a choice?

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