

## Higher Mental Function

- Mini-Mental State Examination: (this is not a mental state exam – it is a limited test of cognitive function, which is only one component of mental state)
- Level of consciousness
  - Alert, drowsy/lethargic (needs continual stimulus to be kept awake), obtunded (can be kept awake by painful stimulus), stuporose (responds to pain), comatose (unconscious and unresponsive)
- Orientation
  - Time 5/5
  - Person
  - Place 5/5
- Memory
  - Short 3/3
  - Recent
  - Remote
  - Recall 3/3
- Attention and concentration
  - Spell "world" backwards 5/5
  - Serial 7's or say five digits in reverse order
- Language
  - Name two objects 2/2
  - Say "no ifs, ands or buts" 1/1
  - Follow three step command -"take paper, fold in half, put on table" 3/3
  - Read and obey "close your eyes" 1/1
  - Write a sentence 1/1
  - Copy a design 1/1
- Other
  - Clock face
  - Draw five point star (good for hepatic encephalopathy)
  - Abstract thinking - interpret a proverb
- Bullet points with a score indicate questions form the MMSE. Total score is 30.