Trail-Making Test for Screening, Part A and B

Administration Instructions

This test of general cognitive function specifically assesses working memory, visual processing, visuospatial skills, selective and divided attention, processing speed, and psychomotor coordination. In addition, numerous studies have demonstrated an association between poor performance on the Trail-Making Tests and poor driving performance.

Instructions for Part A. Using the sample of A, the administrator says: "There are numbers in circles on this page. Please take the pencil and draw a line from one number to the next, in order. Start at 1 [point to the number], then go to 2 [point], then go to 3 [point], and so on. Please try not to lift the pen as you move from one number to the next. Work as quickly and accurately as you can." If there is an error: "You were at number 2. What is the next number?" Wait for the individual's response and say, "Please start here and continue."

Test A: If Sample A is completed correctly, the administrator repeats the above instructions for Trails A. Start timing as soon as the instruction is given to begin. Stop timing when the Trail is completed, or when maximum time is reached (150 seconds = 2.5 min).

Instructions for Part B. Using the sample of B, the administrator says: "There are numbers and letters in circles on this page. Please take the pen and draw a line, alternating in order between the numbers and letters. Start at number 1 [point], then go to the first letter, A [point], then go to the next number, 2 [point], and then the next letter, B [point], and so on. Please try not to lift the pen as you move from one number or letter to the next. Work as quickly and accurately as you can." If there is an error: "You were at number 2. What is the next letter?" Wait for the individual's response and say, "Please start here and continue."

If Sample B is completed correctly, the administrator repeats the above instructions for Trails B. Start timing as soon as the instruction is given to begin. Stop timing when the Trail is completed, or when maximum time is reached (300 seconds = 5 min).

This test is scored by overall time (seconds) required to complete the connections accurately. The examiner points out and corrects mistakes as they occur; the effect of mistakes, then, is to increase the time required to complete the test. This test usually takes 3–4 minutes to administer, but should be stopped after 5 minutes.

Trail Making Test, Part A

Client Name:				Date:		
18		(2)	0)	(2	22)	
	19)	17		21		
15)	16	5	6	4		
13)	14)	7		Start	23	
	8		(10)	3)	
12)	9	(11)	10)	2	4)	
		(25)				

Trail Making Test, Part B

Client Name:		Date:	
(13) (8) (9)) B	1 ((10) D)
(7) (H) (12)	31	Start	5
G		A	J
(L) (F) (K)	6		E) (11)