

A dressing task

This is one of many tasks that can be used to assess if a person can complete an activity of daily living, the manner in which they complete it, and what methods can improve their performance.

The steps are:

- Layout clothes in front of the patient – covering the entire visual field
- Let them know what items are there
- Observe which items are found and which ones are not, for example, is there more difficulty with the ones on the left or right side?
- Observe for spontaneous strategies patients use to help complete the task, e.g. head turning (less likely for neglect; more likely with visual field loss), feeling for items, holding garments to the right to enable full vision
- Place a mirror in front of the patients and observe them adjusting their clothing, based on the visual feedback they get from their own image
- When required, provide verbal cues and observe reaction