

ABILHAND Questionnaire

Instructions

The activities given below normally use both hands, and we would like to know if you can do them. For each question please indicate whether you can do the activity using your hands:

N/A = not an activity you attempt

0 = Not at all

1 = Only partially or with great difficulty and slowly

2 = Fully and easily

Can you:	N/A	0	1	2	Weight
Hammer a nail					1.72
Thread a needle					1.68
Peel potatoes					1.53
Cut all your finger nails					1.49
Wrap up gifts					1.28
File all your finger nails					1.12
Cut up meat					1.11
Peel onions					0.73
Shell nuts					0.47
Open a jar					0.28
Fasten a zip on a jacket					0.22
Open a packet of crisps					0.11
Button up a shirt					-0.18
Sharpen a pencil					-0.33
Spread butter on bread					-0.71
Fasten a snap					-0.72
Button up trousers					-0.72
Take the cap off a bottle					-0.75
Open an envelope					-1.33
Squeeze toothpaste out of tube					-1.58
Zip up trouser zip					-1.59
Unwrap a bar of chocolate					-1.63
Wash both hands					-2.18

References:

Penta et al, 2001; Penta et al, 1998

Comment

This recently published questionnaire-based assessment of manual ability for use with patients after stroke has yet to be tested in widespread use, but has a thorough psychometric pedigree. The developers started with 57 activities, but many could be undertaken using one hand, and this group was selected on the basis that two hands were necessary and that the activities fitted an hierarchical scale. Some of the activities are presumably specific to certain countries (not many people in Britain shell hazel nuts), but the scale is hierarchical and so a score can be deduced using the highest scoring item marked. The weights given in the right column are logits, derived from Rasch analysis, and could be used as a score. Reliability and utility in a research or clinical setting has yet to be established.