

FACT SHEET:



ABIOS

Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service

Category:
Behaviour

Audience:
Professionals

For more information
contact the Acquired Brain
Injury Outreach Service
(ABIOS)

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ABIOS Neuropsychologist

Understanding Behaviour – Questions to Ask After Brain Injury

Introduction

Assessment of behaviours of concern should occur before any behavioural intervention. A good assessment should provide objective and detailed information about the behaviour and the factors causing the behaviour for each person. Assessment can occur through:

1. Detailed history taking (from individual, family, professionals)
2. Use of questionnaires or behavioural checklists,
3. Neuropsychological assessments or other therapy reports
4. Behavioural measurement and observation

It is important to have a good understanding of the behaviour of concern before deciding on any intervention or strategy so the following questions will assist you to record the detail required for the basis of a good behavioural analysis.



Want to Know More?

Contact ABIOS, your Neuropsychologist or your ABIOS Case Manager for further assistance or advice after you have recorded the detail about the behaviour of concern using the following guide.

Resources

See other Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service (ABIOS) Information sheets at <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/abios/>

How does the behaviour of concern start?

- Does it start suddenly or gradually?
- Are there any warning signs, for example, facial expression, tone of voice, pacing etc?
- Is there a gradual build up of signs that a behavioural of concern is likely to occur?

How long does the behaviour of concern last?

- Does the behaviour of concern last for minutes, hours, days or weeks?
- Can it be stopped or interrupted?
- What strategies help the person to stop the behaviour?
- How often are they able to stop?



How does medication affect the behaviour of concern?

- What medications is the person taking?
(Make a detailed list of medications and dosages and attach to this factsheet)
- Is medication taken routinely?
- What are the side-effects of medication?
(e.g. drowsiness, fatigue, irritability, confusion)
- Could the behaviour of concern be a side-effect of any medication/s?
- Does the behaviour of concern improve with medication?
- How long is it since medication has been reviewed?

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What is happening in the person's life?

- What does the person do with their time?
- What work, study or leisure activities do they participate in?
- What relationships are important to them?
- Who do they talk to/go to if they need help? Who are their friends, family?
- What choices do they get to make in their life?
- What are their hopes, dreams, and plans for the future?
- What kind of person do they want to be?
- How do they feel about their own behaviour?



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