MiDAS · Staff
Music in Dementia Assessment Scales

Name (Resident):

Completed by:

Date:  
Time of rating:

Indicate which rating this is (tick the box):  
1. Before 
2. After

If the person appeared asleep for most of the time, do not score question 1-6, but continue to question 7.

1. Levels of Interest in objects/activities/people around him/her (attention). For example:
   - Did he/she show interest in an activity or other people around him/her?
   - Did his/her posture or facial expression change if activities or music caught his/her attention?
   - Did he/she become animated if activities or music caught his/her attention?

   None at all  ________________________________ Highest

2. Levels of Response in communication/activity (awareness, interaction). For example:
   - Did his/her facial expression or body-movements indicate his/her awareness of staff or therapist?
   - Did he/she make eye-contact with staff, therapist or other group members?
   - Did he/she join in conversation, music making or make vocal sound?

   None at all  ________________________________ Highest

3. Levels of Initiation in communication/activity (intention). For example:
   - Did he/she try to communicate with staff, therapist or other group members?
   - Did he/she start conversation, start music making, or initiate vocalisation?
   - Did he/she talk about his/her life experiences (reminiscence) or mention music meaningful to them?

   None at all  ________________________________ Highest

4. Levels of Involvement in communication/activity (participation). For example:
   - Did he/she become engaged in conversation, music making, or any form of communication?
   - Did he/she show enthusiasm in activities that interest him/her?

   None at all  ________________________________ Highest

5. Levels of Enjoyment during communication/activity. For example:
   - Did he/she smile, laugh, show brighter mood?
   - Did he/she show playfulness, sense of humour?
   - Was he/she relaxed?

   None at all  ________________________________ Highest
6. During this period of time did you notice any major reactions from the person? Indicate if only major reactions are observed. Use this list as supplementary information to the five VAS.

- Agitated/aggressive
- Withdrawn/low in mood
- Restless/anxious
- Relaxed
- Attentive/interested
- Cheerful/smiling

7. Any comments?

Instruction

MiDAS (Music in Dementia Assessment Scales) aims to assess if there have been changes in the wellbeing of a person with dementia participating in Music Therapy. Both staff and therapist complete two forms each per session to evaluate the potential changes. MiDAS uses Visual Analogue Scales; the ‘Highest’ score on the scale should be set as the optimum level the individual can achieve. This means that each individual will have a unique set of ‘Highest’ levels for each category.

It is important the same staff member completes both forms on the same day.

1. Before form should be completed before the person’s music therapy session. Please take a moment, reflect on the person’s wellbeing today and decide the average rating for each item and mark clearly with a vertical line on the scale.

2. After form should be completed several hours after the person’s music therapy session on the same day. Rate the person’s average wellbeing after today’s session.

Order of rating in relation to music therapy (MT):

- Staff rating 1 (Before)
- MT rating 1 (Beginning)
- MT rating 2 (During)
- Staff rating 2 (After)