

Early Stage

Level 5.0: Signs begin to Show

- Relatively able and independent
- Problems with short-term memory
- Problems losing track in complicated tasks
- Problems with planning, problem solving, and judgment (Executive Function)
- Should be able to manage most concrete tasks
- May affect “quality” of performance-may behave impulsively or hesitantly

Early Middle Stage

Level 4.5: A Time of increasing problems

- Seems to perform normally, but errors creep in
- Will keep a goal but may need reminders
- More easily distracted; needs help staying on track; readily redirected
- Language still works to give information
- Problems begin to show with thinking-handling abstract ideas is harder
- Easily frustrated; may be impulsive

Early Middle Stage

Level 4.0: Impairments more noticeable

- Limited attention and easily distracted—reacts to pressure; abstract thought very weak
- Simple and familiar tasks with few steps
- Knows there's a goal, but needs reminders
- Clear trouble with memory, language, orientation, perception, and attention
- Performance quality poor
- Needs help organizing tasks
- Needs short, concrete directions– visual cues

Late Middle Stage

Level 3.5: Becoming dependent in basic daily tasks

- Confused,--vague about purpose (may not feel any sense of purpose: Easily rushed or startled)
- Needs direction, may need help starting and with steps throughout the task, (order)
- May be able to perform 2-3 steps in order on own
- Performance quality very poor. Still relates to objects, Easily frustrated
- Needs visual and tactile information– language too abstract and must be simplified
- Thinking severely impaired in all areas– may not remember caregivers

Late Middle Stage

Level 3.0: Person experiences general confusion

- All thinking powers seriously affected
- Very confused. Hard to understand what's happening or what's wanted of him/her
- No purpose; order with help
- Needs help starting and staying with all tasks
- Very concrete– visual and tactile cues
- Step by step help
- Very easily distracted, frustrated, upset, confused. Don't rush or pressure. Reassure.

Late Stage

Level 2.0: Person functioning with Minimal Abilities

- Powers of thinking virtually gone
- Purpose and order are no more– have to come entirely from outside
- May or may not relate to objects
- Needs total care
- Goals of care are comfort
- Involvement, at this stage, is almost entirely passive

Late Stage

Level 1.0: Person is in bed and Unresponsive

- Little or no consciousness or awareness
- Sleeps much of the time
- Total care
- Comfort is the goal.