

Diagnostic Issues and Concerns

Interpretive Flowchart

The IVA-2 clinical interpretive decision process follows the steps and rules specified in the Interpretive Flowchart. Click on Help to view and print the IVA-2 Interpretive Flowchart before proceeding to use the IVA-2 test results in making your clinical diagnosis. It is necessary to carefully review this Flowchart in order to understand how the test results can be properly interpreted. It is designed to be followed strictly in a sequential step by step order. The decision tree process requires that you examine each step in the order listed and determine whether or not it is true. If that step's condition is determined by you to be true, each rule in that step must then be sequentially evaluated as to whether or not it is true. Your decision making process stops with the first step/rule that is true and only one step/rule by definition can be true for any person's IVA-2 test scores.

It is strongly recommended that examiners use the IVA-2 Report system to assist them in making a clinical diagnosis. While the flowchart steps can be manually followed, the decision tree process is complicated given the quantity of test scales, discriminatory test factors and other clinical variables that need to be considered in order for it to be followed accurately. For example, the Interpretive Flowchart makes the assumption for adults that it is unknown if ADHD symptoms were identified as existing before the age of 12; your clinical interpretation and diagnosis will need to take this factor into account when using the Flowchart. In addition, the Flowchart does not utilize any rating scales or other clinical data you may have collected in guiding your interpretation of the test results, thus, when using it you will need to take these limitations into account. In contrast, the Clinical Report requires you to evaluate all of the clinical data you have collected, as part of your comprehensive evaluation.

The test interpretation suggestions made using this flowchart require that you consider various psychological diagnoses and evaluate the impact of any co-morbid factors identified based on clinical information or other test findings. Psychiatric behavioral diagnostic criteria make it necessary for you to consider several psychological disorders other than ADHD which exhibit symptoms of impulsivity, fatigue, loss of focus, slow mental processes and inattention. It is also important to remember that neither the IVA-2 CPT nor any other psychological test by itself identifies the presence or absence of any diagnosis. The IVA-2 CPT results are to be interpreted only within a comprehensive evaluation and should not be used as the only criteria in making a clinical diagnosis. Consequently, it is standard clinical practice for all clinicians to weigh and interpret all relevant clinical data in making their diagnosis. In describing the relative strengths and weaknesses of IVA-2 standard Q-scores for individuals, it is recommended that you use the descriptive labels found at the end of the flowchart.