

MOTIVATION ASSESSMENT SCALE

1. Would this behavior occur continuously if the client was left alone for long periods of time (for example, one hour)?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
2. Does this behavior occur following a command to perform a difficult task?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
3. Does this behavior occur when you are talking to other people in the room?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
4. Does this behavior ever occur to get an object, activity, food, or game that the client has been told he/she can't have?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
5. Does this behavior occur repeatedly, over and over, in the same way (for example, rocking back and forth for five minutes)?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
6. Does this behavior occur when any request is made of the client?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
7. Does this behavior occur whenever you stop attending to the client?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
8. Does this behavior occur when you take away a favorite object, activity, or food?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
9. Does it appear to you that the client enjoys performing this behavior, and would continue even if no one was around?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
10. Does the client seem to do this behavior to upset or annoy you when you are trying to get him or her to do what you ask?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
11. Does the client seem to do this behavior to upset or annoy you when you are not paying attention to him or her (for example when you are sitting in a separate room, interacting with another client)?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
12. Does this behavior stop occurring shortly after you give the client the object, activity, or food he/she has requested?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
13. When this behavior is occurring, does the client seem unaware of anything else going on around him or her?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
14. Does this behavior stop occurring shortly after (one to five minutes) you stop working or making demands of him or her?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
15. Does the client seem to do this behavior to get you to spend some time with him or her?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6
16. Does this behavior seem to occur when the client has been told that he/she can't do something he or she wanted to do?	Never	0	1	2	3	4	5	Always	6

SCORING SHEET

Motivation Assessment Scale

A score is obtained for each of the four categories of maintaining variables by adding the scores for each of the category's four questions and computing a mean.

Scoring Summary

Self-Stimulatory	Escape/avoidance	Attention	Tangible
1 _____	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____
5 _____	6 _____	7 _____	8 _____
9 _____	10 _____	11 _____	12 _____
13 _____	14 _____	15 _____	16 _____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Durand, V. M., & Crimmins, D. B. (1988). Identifying the variables maintaining self-injurious behavior. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 18*, 99-117.