

Review of Key Points

Hyperkinetic Catatonia

Bush-Francis Catatonia Rating Scale

Please address questions to:

Mark A. Oldham, MD

Mark Oldham@urmc.rochester.edu

Andrew Francis, PhD MD

Afrancis1@pennstatehealth.psu.edu

Excitement: Constant motor movements that are apparently purposeless

- Excludes akathisia

Ambitendency: Motorically indecisive, “stuck” movements

- Can present as either complete stoppage of movement or vacillating behaviors (e.g., stepping back and forth, in and out of a doorway)

Automatic Obedience: Exaggerated cooperation, even if the stimulus is aversive to patient

Perseveration: Difficulty shifting topics or stopping movements

- Motor perseveration differs from stereotypy and mannerisms, both of which are initiated by the patient
- Verbal perseveration differs from verbigeration, which sounds like a skipping record

Echopraxia: Mimicking examiner’s movements

- Can be spontaneous or elicited by examiner’s making exaggerated movements (e.g., scratching head or turning in a circle)

Verbigeration: Repetition of a phrase or sentence

- Sounds like a skipping record

Echolalia: Mimicking examiner’s speech

- Mimicry is spontaneous, serves no apparent purpose, and appears automatic

Combativeness: Unprovoked, non-goal-directed aggression toward a person

- Excludes actions that are purposeful or done in retaliation
- Differs from impulsivity, which does not involve a potentially dangerous action done toward another person