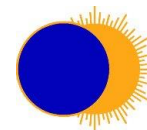


SMART - PROFILE Version 3: Streamlined and enhanced to promote a bespoke assessment and investigation of the PDOC patient

June 17, 2022

Helen Gill-Thwaites MBE

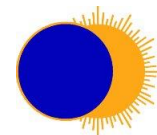


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Key development themes for Version 3

- Changes in legal framework, RCP guidelines and research findings
- Need a spectrum for durability and reproducibility
- Length of assessment
- The need for a bespoke client centered assessment
- Using clinical judgment
- Comparison of each component to others
- Provide indicative diagnosis but also framework for intervention and management



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SMART- PROFILE

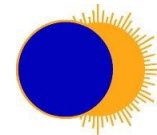
PDOC Responses Observation Framework for Investigative Inquiry and Locating Evidence

*Assessment of PDOC – “Detective Work at its Best” –
Dr E Freeman*

SMART PROFILE- Investigation **NOT** just an Assessment

What do you need for an investigation?

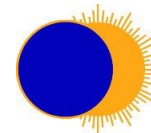
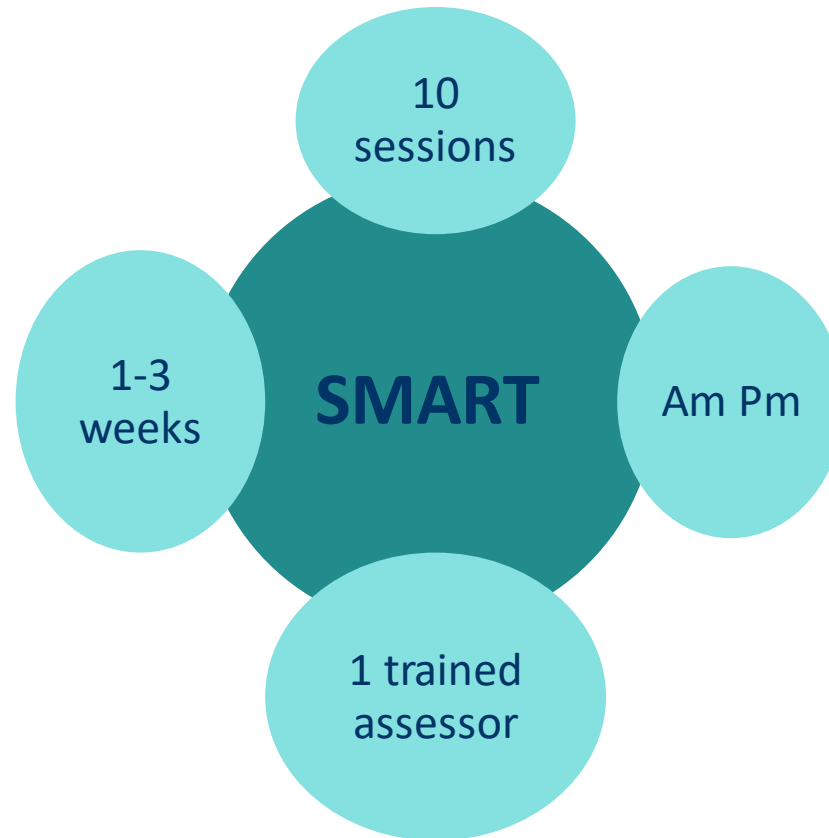
- Experienced and consistent detective to review the evidence and oversee trends and findings
- Investigative tools
- Conduct interviews
- Verify evidence



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Organisation of the SMART Assessment



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Clinical questions in development of SMART

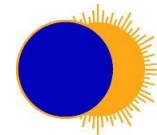
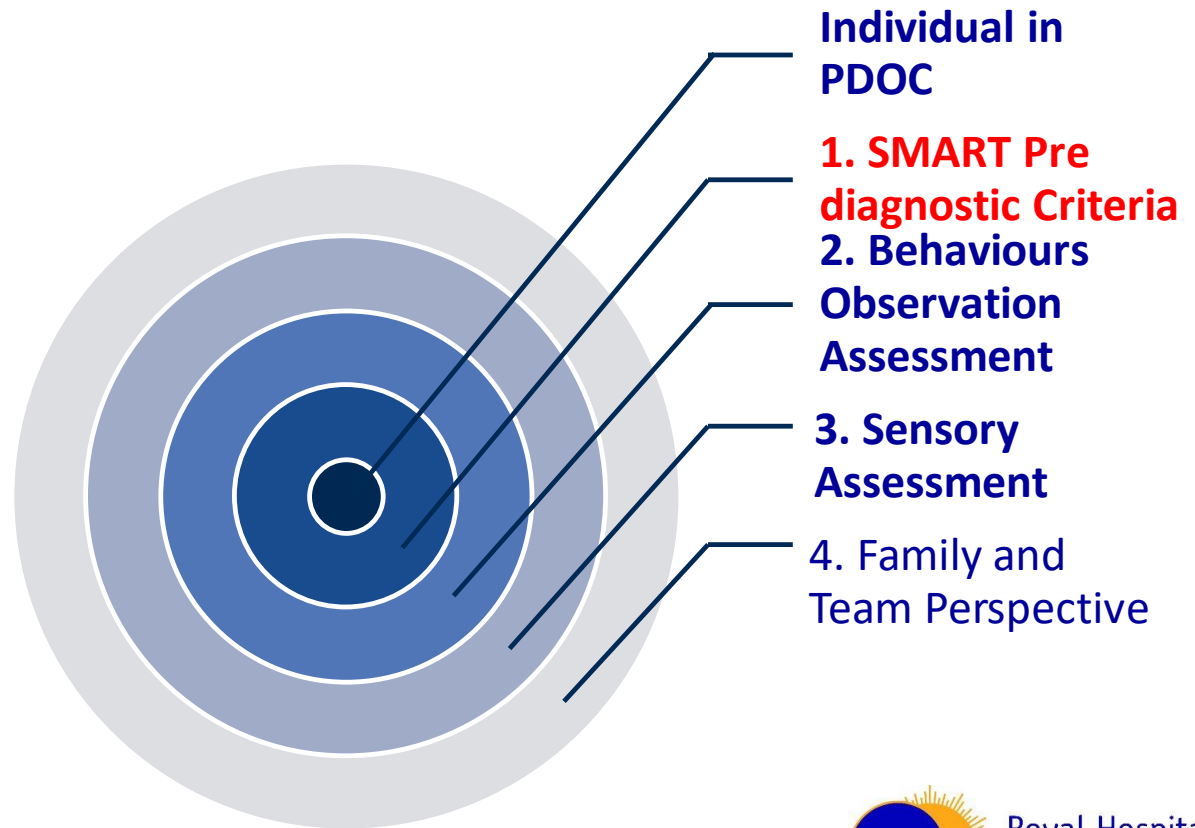
- What **impacts** responses?
- What **behaviours** are present before we do anything?
- **What** does the patient respond to? And **how** do they respond?
- Where is the patient on the **PDOC spectrum** and within the diagnostic category to show clinical change?
- What responses are seen by **family and team**?
- What **happens** after the assessment?
- **SPEC**
- **Behavioural Observations**
- **Sensory Assessment**
- **Analysis and Profile**
- **Informs, Formal observation**
- **Intervention and Management strategy**



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SMART - Layering the Evidence



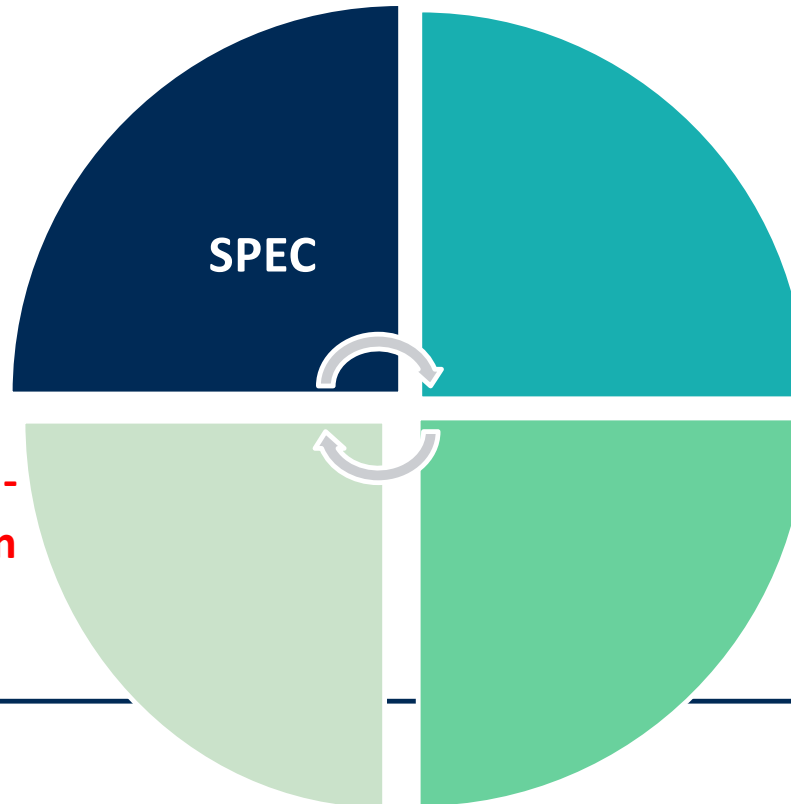
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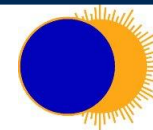
Layering the Evidence – what's new

Red – Unique to SMART, other evidence not gathered by PDOC assessment (only with specialist team)

- ⑩ Medical Stability
- ⑩ Medication
- ⑩ Tone
- ⑩ Positioning-
- ⑩ Bed and Wheelchair
- ⑩ Seating System
- ⑩ Sitting Tolerance
- ⑩ Environment
- ⑩ Pain and Mood
- ⑩ Impact of all of above -
 - Overall and Per Session



• Type

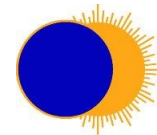
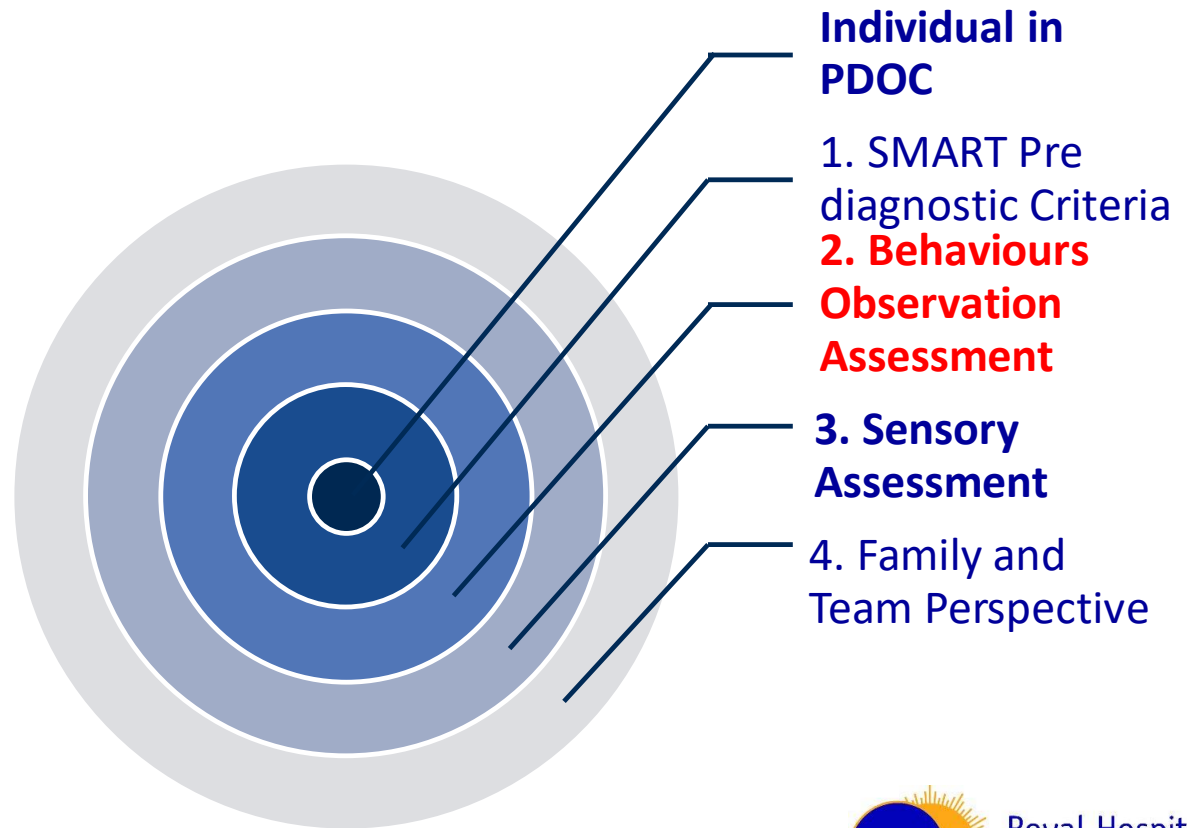


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S8 SPEC AUDIT - Formal Evaluation and record of diagnosis of VS or MCS – SPEC Requirements reviewed Adapted from RCP guidelines Annex 2f			
Minimum Requirement	Met [M] Unmet[U] Review [R]	Action Required	Action No Table 4 (report)
MEDICAL MANAGEMENT			
General Medical Condition has been stabilised as far as possible			
Medically Stable Free from sepsis and other serious illness affecting consciousness			
Medications – reviewed to minimise sedations			
Clinical examination Of sensory pathways has been undertaken			
Imaging/Investigations As appropriate to eliminate			
SPECIALIST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME			
TONE Active spasticity management in place, including medication			

SMART - Layering the Evidence



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Eye movement per episode

**SMART
PROFIL**

ROCC Regional Observation Framework
for Hospital-based Assessment



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SMART PROFIL Behavioural Observation Assessment Form

Patient's name: _____ Assessment no: _____
 Assessor's name: _____ Date: _____
 Position: ☐ Lying ☐ Sitting Ward/location: _____ Time: _____ AM/ PM: _____

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	L	R
1																												
2																												
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Total:																												

Observed eye movement (indicate direction with arrows)

Right Left

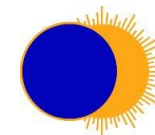
☐ No movement (please tick)
☐ Eyes closed throughout

Respiration rate: ☐ Regular ☐ Irregular ☐ Description: _____

Pupil size: Right _____ Left _____

Constricted _____
 Dilated _____
 Equal _____

Indicate distraction _____
 Eye direction (record with arrows) _____



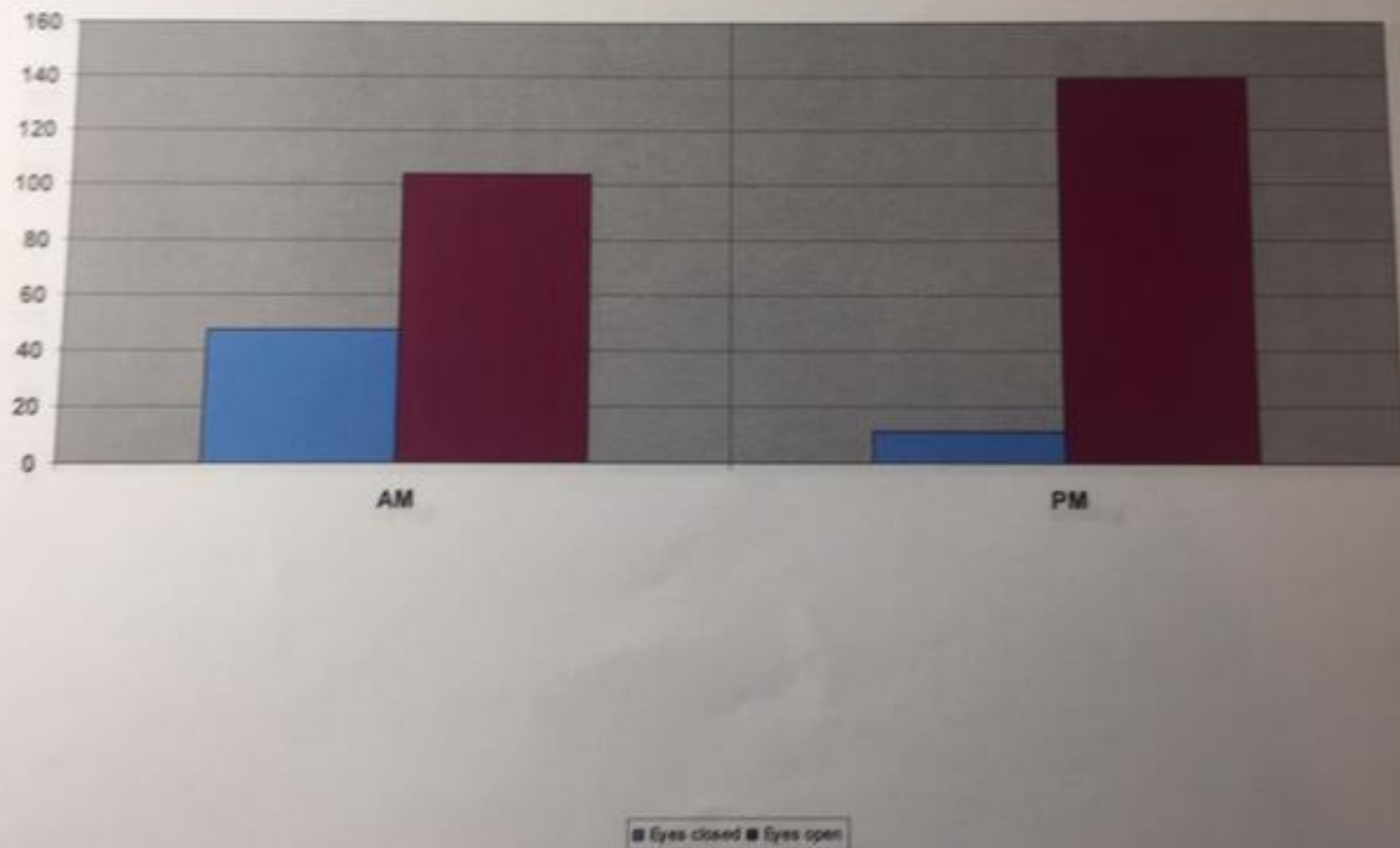
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Behavioural Observation Assessment – creating a behavioural profile

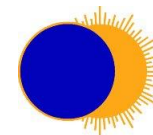
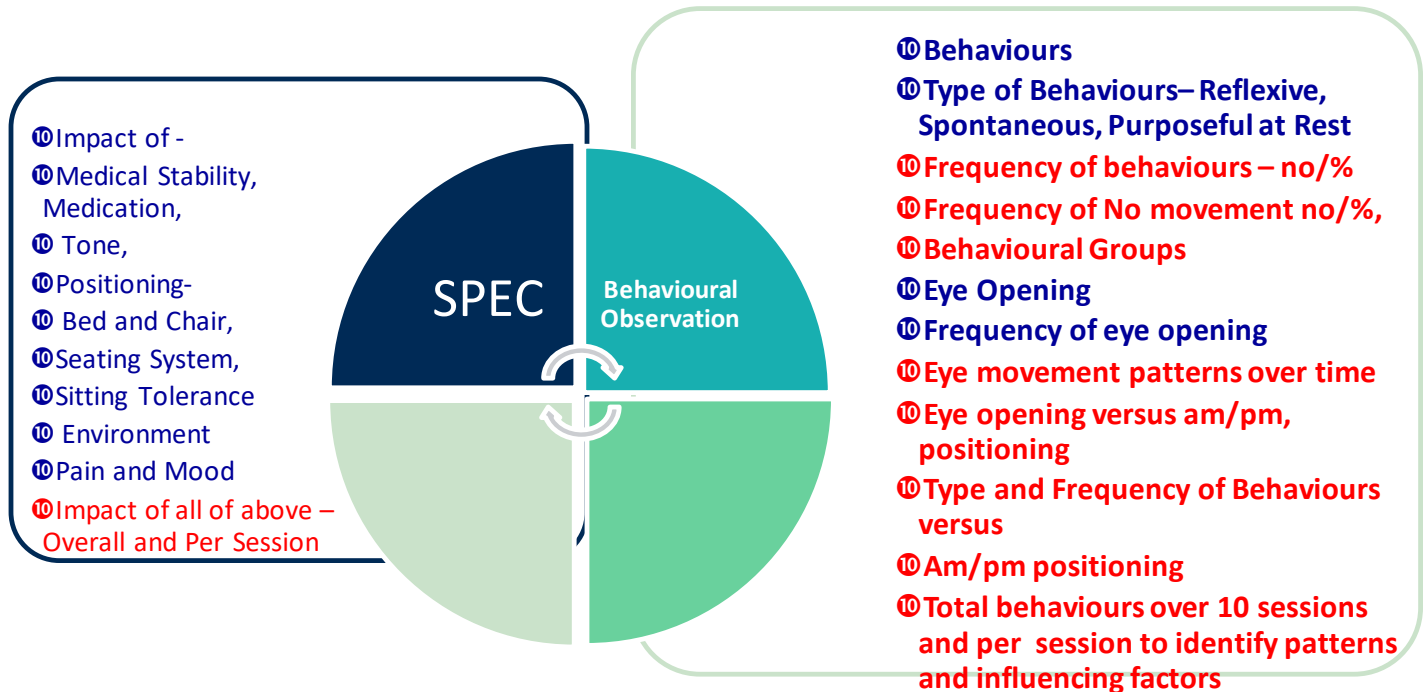
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Case Study 2 - Total Eye states analysed by Time in Assessment 1



SMART - Layering the Evidence

Red – exclusive to SMART



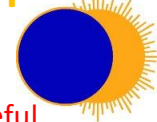
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Case Study 1

SMART Behavioural Observation

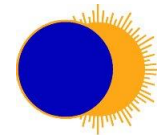
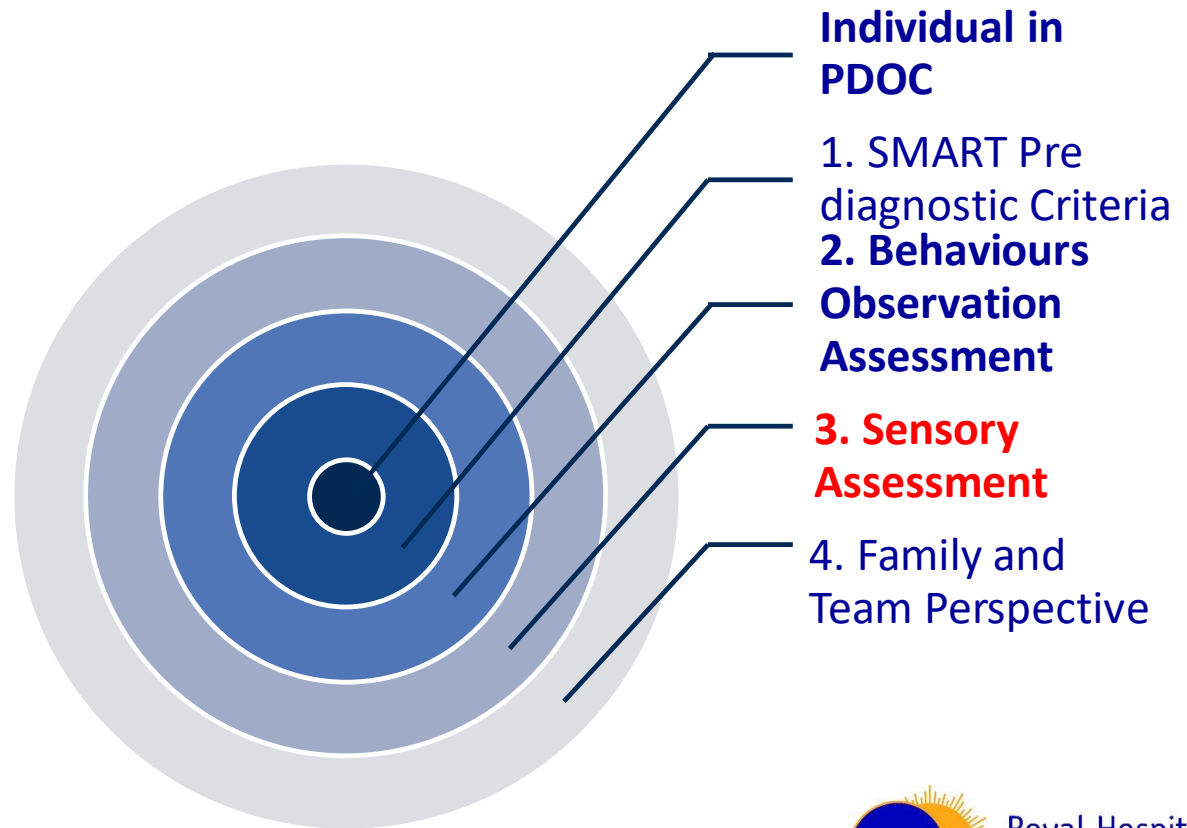
- Family strongly opposing CANH – cared for many years at home
 - Now on ITU Unit – Intensivist applied for withdrawal CANH
 - SMART conducted and videos taken of all behavioural observations and the family observations sessions were carefully explored.
 - Family reported visual localisation to interaction on left then right
 - Behavioural Observations videos and time with family revealed:
 - Eye movement pattern at rest noted eye movement pattern sustained to left for 2 minutes, then up and over to right for 2 minutes then repeated.
 - On day of court the family withdrew their opposition
- Brother spoke positively in court about SMART process and its careful exploration of family beliefs and views



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SMART - Layering the Evidence



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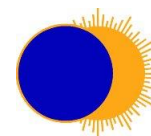
Sensory Modality Assessment Rehabilitation Technique



Formal Sensory Assessment Changes to Format

Reasons

- SALT involvement in constructing instructions and communicative cues
- To provide a variety of prompts to optimise patient responses
- Avoiding unnecessary assessment- formalising practice
- Keep assessment shorter where indicated
- Client centred – including familiar stimuli
- Enabling assessor to use clinical skills to explore higher level responses
- Core and Advanced Techniques
- Framework for emergence requested



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PROGRESSION

Core techniques			Advanced Techniques	
Visual Modality				
6	Visual Fixation	visual fixation visual localisation which has clearly been reproduced on two occasions.	A1	Following written instruction Differentiation of Visual stimuli (verbal/written) Use of A/F switch (written)
7	Visual tracking with verbal instruction		A2	
8	Visual tracking of a person		A3	
Auditory Modality				
12	A/F switch with verbal instructions	Individual presses AF switch minimum of 4/5 > 1 session.	A4	Use of A/F switch for yes/no
Tactile Modality				
14 15	Light touch OR Shoulder tap	An ability to indicate yes/no <u>and</u> a reproducible response to tactile core technique, at a localising level	A5	Differentiation of tactile stimuli
Gustatory Modality				
		All requirements for this modality are achieved see Gustatory section	A5	Gustatory stimuli technique

Formal Sensory Assessment Changes to Profile

Reasons for changes to profile

- All MCS no change to indicative diagnosis or standardised validated assessment BUT
- Allows for clinical subdivision to:
 - locate on a spectrum - current thinking re diagnosis
 - Look at durability and reproducibility
 - Guide targeted intervention
 - Measuring changes and more sensitive changes in trajectory



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SMART Levels and Indicative Diagnosis

SMART Level	Indicative Diagnosis
1	VS
2	
3	
4	MCS-
5 Lower	MCS+ Lower
5 Mid	MCS+ Mid
5Upper	MCS+ Upper
6	Emergent MCS

SMART Level		Criteria	Motor function/functional motor	Functional communication
1	VS	No response	No response	No response
2		Reflexive	Reflexive	Reflexive non-meaningful facial expression
3		Reflexive withdrawal responses to stimuli OR Non-meaningful spontaneous responses	Withdrawal OR Non-meaningful spontaneous responses	Reflexive non-meaningful facial expression, non-meaningful vocalisation to stimuli, and so on
4	MCS-	Localises to stimuli or meaningful spontaneous responses OR Communicative responses to specific stimuli but not to instruction/cue/prompt	Motor function ➤ Localises, visual fixation, pursuit; ➤ Body part towards stimulus; ➤ For example, meaningful, spontaneous brushes hair out of eyes (often repetitive). Functional motor ➤ Active movement within guided activity felt with facilitation; ➤ Unable to complete any aspect of task; ➤ Unable to initiate task; ➤ Manipulates form.	Communicative facial expression or meaningful vocalisation in context or to specific technique or stimuli Intelligible verbalisation. Lacks meaning or not in context
5 Lower	MCS+ Lower	Responds appropriately directly to the type of stimulus, interacting with stimuli, not to verbal, written instruction or cues	Motor function Cause-and-effect, copying Presses the auditory feedback switch/iPad but does not follow direct instruction Functional motor Completes simple functional task without instruction, for example, removes sock, adjusts hat, removes glasses, but not to instruction	Copies facial expression, gestures, words OR uses automatic speech to finish phrase, OR verbally responds appropriately to stimuli, for example, “go away” in response to having an injection
5 Mid	MCS+ Mid	Following visual, verbal instruction, tactile cues or discriminates (<i>Telling the client to ...</i>)	Follows instruction/cue or discriminates	Demonstrates “Yes” and/or “No” but cannot functionally answer questions when asked
5 Upper	MCS+ Upper	Demonstrates one of the following: choice-making/matched pairs/functional use of an object Demonstrates “Yes/No” but does not meet the RCP criteria. (<i>Asking the client to ...</i>)	Motor function Choice-making/matches, but does not meet RCP criteria for emergence Functional Motor ➤ Use of object, that is, pen But does not meet the RCP criteria	Uses gesture or other methods of output (see output options) to make needs known. Makes choices or indicates “Yes/No” (see output options). Answers questions to situational and/or autobiographical questions But does not meet the RCP criteria.
6	MCS emerged	Meets the RCP guidelines for emergence from MCS by demonstrating the required number of correct responses with one or more of the following:	Motor function Choice-making/matches, but does meet the RCP criteria for emergence	Uses gesture or other methods of output (see output options) to make needs known. Makes choices or indicates “Yes/No” (see output options). Answers questions to situational and/or

SMART Categories of Frequency and Durability of Response

HI

- **Highest Inconsistent Responses**

- Relevant responses observed in the modality that occurs on 1-4 sessions over assessment stage. (1 is unverified)

FI

- **Frequent Inconsistent response**

- A response that occurs 5 times or more but not consecutively

C

- **Consistent response**

- A consistent response occurring in at least 5 consecutive assessment sessions



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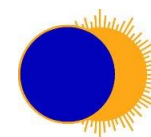
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SMART Profile - new

Can be applied to all sensory modalities for **both**
Motor and Functional Communication Level 6 not validated

Table 7: SMART Level and Frequency and associated indicative diagnosis

Indicative diagnosis	VS						MCS												Emergent MCS	
							MCS–			MCS+ lower			MCS+ mid			MCS+ upper				
SMART Level	1	2HI	2FI	2C	3HI	3FI	3C	4HI	4FI	4C	5HI	5FI	5C	5HI	5FI	5C	5HI	5FI	5C	6



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Review highest motor and functional communitive responses over 10 sessions

	4
for	3
ty	2
y	1
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PDOC: A response to a “critical review of the new RCP guidelines”

The UK marked contrast to USA

- Recognise that PDOC may “demonstrate a trajectory towards improved awareness”
- “One reason for using the term PDOC is that clinicians who work in this field understand that levels of consciousness form a spectrum”.

Wade, Turner –Stokes et al 2022



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Layering the evidence

Red – exclusive to SMART

- ⑩ Impact of Medical Stability, Medication,
- ⑩ Tone,
- ⑩ Positioning-
- ⑩ Bed and Chair,
- ⑩ Seating System,
- ⑩ Sitting Tolerance
- ⑩ Environment
- ⑩ Pain and Mood
- ⑩ Impact of all of above
- –Overall and Per Session

SPEC

Behavioural Observation

INFORMS

Sensory Assessment

• Behaviours

- ⑩ Type of Behaviours—Reflexive, Spontaneous, Purposeful at Rest
- ⑩ Frequency of behaviours—no/%
- ⑩ Frequency of No movement no/%,
- ⑩ Behavioural Groups
- ⑩ Eye Opening
- ⑩ Frequency of eye opening
- ⑩ Eye movement patterns over time
- ⑩ Eye opening versus am/pm, positioning
- ⑩ Type and Frequency of Behaviours versus
- ⑩ Am/pm positioning
- ⑩ Total behaviours over 10 sessions and per session to identify patterns and influencing factors

- ⑩ Diagnosis of VS, MCS-, MCS+ Lower Mid, Upper
- ⑩ Evidence of Emergence
- ⑩ Per Modality and
- ⑩ Per Motor and Functional Communication
- ⑩ Identified Unverified Responses
- ⑩ Frequency and Durability of Responses

Optional Non- Standardised elements of SMART - Investigating for further evidence

➤ Formal Observation

Observation of meaningful responses reported from family and team

➤ SMART Functional Exploration Techniques

- F1 Copying movements
- F2 Copying functional use of an object
- F3 Differentiation between sounds
- F4 Response to Humorous stimuli
- F5 Cause and Effect

➤ Emergence Techniques

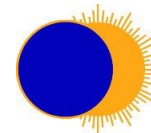
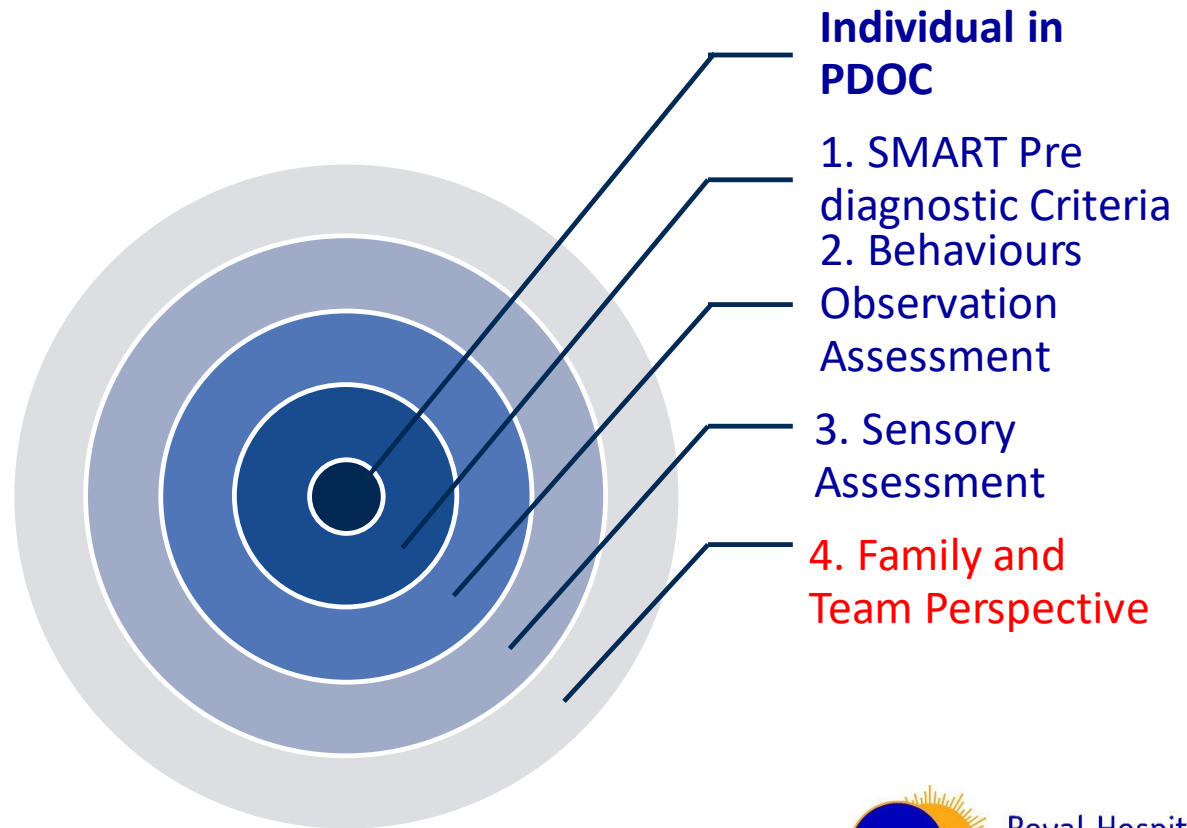
Exploring RCP parameters for Motor and Communication



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SMART - Layering the Evidence



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Informs Changes

Reasons

- Elicit information from team and family before commencement of SMART not after the assessment
- Target key information about the individual that can be shared amongst team to prevent duplication for family
- Assists in shaping daily programme and familiar stimuli



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Comparison of Formal SMART and INFORMAL

Table 3: SMART Profile Summary

[illegible]

Orientation to the Report template sections

Summary, Analysis and recommendations;

1. SPEC
2. Behavioral Observations
3. Formal Sensory Assessment
4. Informs
5. Comparison to previous SMART assessment*
6. Further formal investigative inquiries
7. Indicative diagnosis & SMART Profile
8. Further investigation & intervention plan & management strategy
9. Tables



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PDOC Assessment or Investigation

What is required by the stakeholder?

Gathering the Evidence

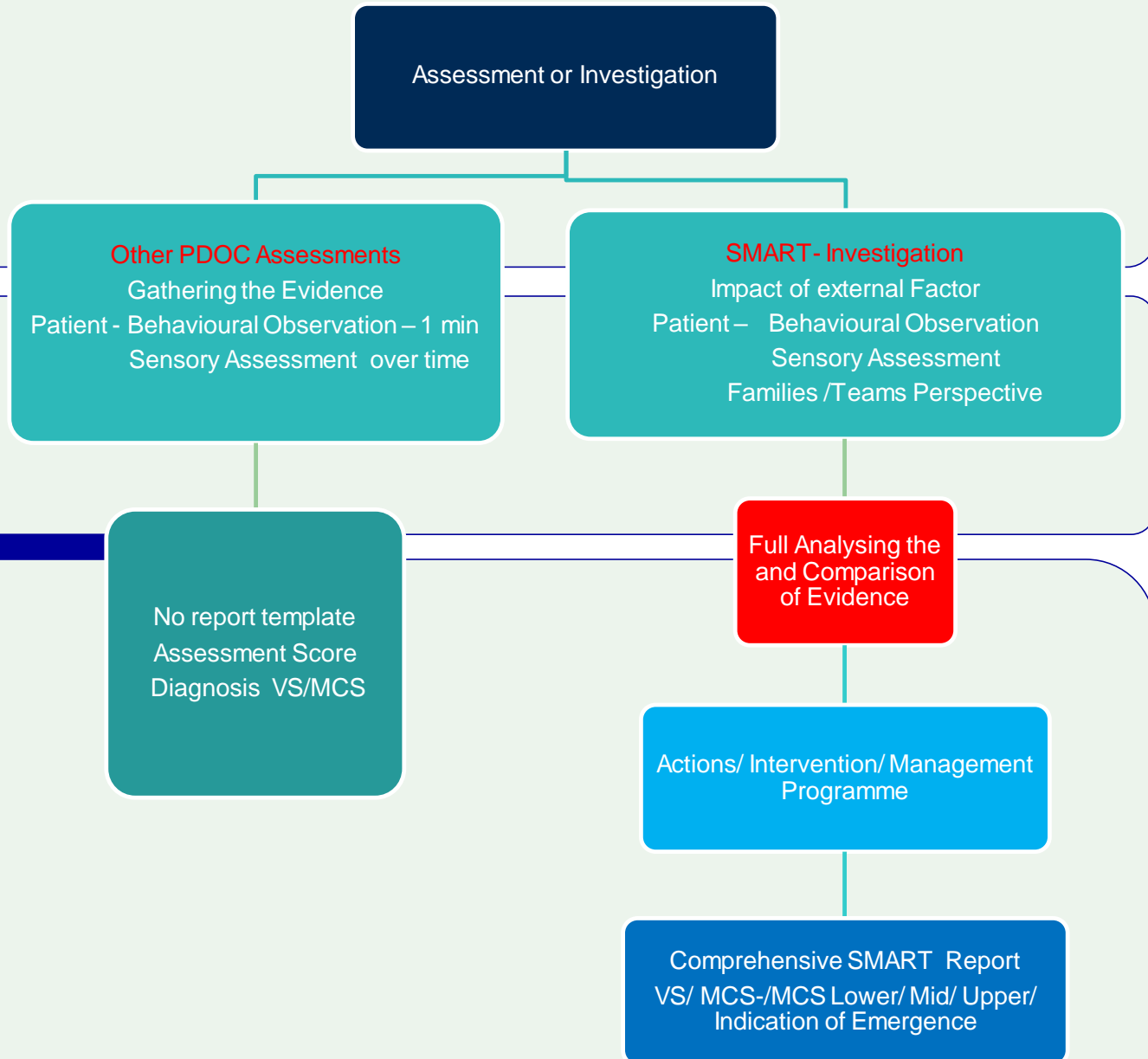
What does it find?

Outcome of Assessment/Investigation

CRS - Present what evidence is found or

SMART- Presents evidence, investigates and analyses further and provides plan?

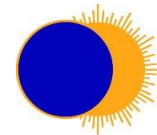
What does the Information tell us?



PDOC: A response to a “critical review of the new RCP guidelines”

“The CRS is a wonderful simple tool but does not replace detailed clinical evaluation by experts assessing consciousness”.

Wade, Turner –Stokes et al 2022



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SMART- Evidence Based Practice

1. Accuracy of Assessment, Skilled Assessor

Godbolt et al (2012)

2. Prognostic Value of SMART Behavioural Observation

Teixeira et al (2016)

3. Diagnostic Frequency

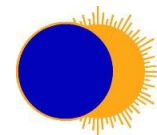
Teixeira et al (2021)

4. Use of 2 assessments – SMART/WHIM preferred

- DeLargy et al (2013)
- McAleese et al (2016)
- Morrissey A, Gill-Thwaites et al (2018)

5. Rasch Analysis -Seel paper

Tennant Gill-Thwaites (2018)

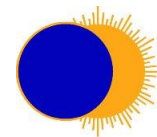


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PDOC: A response to a “critical review of the new RCP guidelines”

- “The USA and European guidelines recommend clinical diagnosis on CRS. In contrast the UK support using three validated tools: the CRS, the WHIM and the **more detailed SMART** which complement each other.”



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SMART

An Innovation from RHN

SMART Course

Course run in collaboration with Gill- Thwaites & Elliott Consultants

- **SMART Assessor Course**
- **PDOC Observer and Facilitator Course**

SMART Assessments

- **SMART Assessor List or Recommended Assessors**

References

- da Conceição Teixeira L, Blacker D, Campos C, Garrett C, Duport S and Rocha NB (2021) Repeated Clinical Assessment Using Sensory Modality Assessment and Rehabilitation Technique for Diagnosis in Prolonged Disorders of Consciousness. *Front. Hum. Neurosci.* 15:728637. doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2021.728637
- Gill-Thwaites H. (1997). The Sensory Modality Assessment and Rehabilitation Technique: a tool for the assessment and treatment of patients with severe brain injury in a vegetative state. *Brain Injury*, 11: 723–734.
- Gill-Thwaites H., Munday R. (2004). The Sensory Modality Assessment and Rehabilitation Technique (SMART): a valid and reliable assessment for vegetative state and minimally conscious state patients. *Brain Injury*, 18: 1255–1269.
- Godbolt, A. K., Stenson, S., Winberg, M., & Tengvar, C. (2012). Disorders of consciousness: Preliminary data supports added value of extended behavioural assessment. *Brain Injury*, 26(2), 188–193.
- McAleese, A., Wilson, C. F., McEvoy, M., & Caldwell, S. (2018). Comparison of SMART and WHIM as measurement tools in routine assessment of PDOC patients. *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation*, 28(8), 1266–1274. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09602011.2016.1264977> Morrissey, A.-M., Gill-Thwaites, H., Wilson, B., Leonard, R.,
- McLellan, L., Pundole, A., & Shiel, A. (2018). The role of the SMART and WHIM in behavioural assessment of disorders of consciousness: Clinical utility and scope for a symbiotic relationship. *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation*, 28(8), 1254–1265. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09602011.2017.1354769>
- Morrissey, A.-M., Gill-Thwaites, H., Wilson, B., Leonard, R., McLellan, L., Pundole, A., & Shiel, A. (2018). The role of the SMART and WHIM in behavioural assessment of disorders of consciousness: Clinical utility and scope for a symbiotic relationship. *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation*, 28(8), 1254–1265. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09602011.2017.1354769>
- Royal College of Physicians (2020) Prolonged Disorders of Consciousness National Clinical Guidelines. RCP London
- Wade D.T., Turner-Stokes L., Playford D.E., Allanson J, Pickard J. Clinical Rehabilitation 1-9 (2022). Prolonged disorder of consciousness: A response to a “critical evaluation of the new UK guidelines.” DOI 10.1177/02692155221099704



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