

Mental status

The mental [status](#) examination or mental state examination (MSE) is an important part of the clinical assessment process in psychiatric practice. It is a structured way of observing and describing a patient's psychological functioning at a given point in time, under the domains of appearance, attitude, behavior, mood, and affect, speech, thought process, thought content, perception, cognition, insight, and judgment.

There are some minor variations in the subdivision of the MSE and the sequence and names of MSE domains.

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