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Guidelines for Evaluating Asian American Patients with Brain Injury (BI)

HOW SHOULD I CONCEPTUALIZE CASES INVOLVING ASIAN AMERICAN PATIENTS WITH BI?

- Understand your patients' backgrounds based on their culture of origin rather than view them collectively as Asian Americans.
 - For more information, please visit www.ethnomed.org/culture.
- Conduct a cultural assessment.
 - For review: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/qi/qi-ccprior-assess-manual.pdf>
 - Go to www.psychiatry.org for information about how to conduct a cultural formulation interview (DSM-5).
 - Administer self-report questionnaires (e.g., Asian American Value Scale—Multidimensional (Kim, Li, & Ng, 2005) measuring cultural preference).
- Utilize a biopsychosocial cultural model for conceptualization.
 - For a specific example, read: [Roy, Jayaram, Vassila, Keach, & Rao, 2014](#)

WHAT KINDS OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING SHOULD I ADMINISTER?

- Utilize translated and normed testing protocols for specific Asian ethnic subgroups.
 - Read: [Chan, Shum, & Cheung, 2003](#) (contains a list of neuropsychological tests that have been developed in Asian countries).

- For bilingual patients, consider administering Bilingual Verbal Abilities Tests ([Muñoz-Sandoval, Cummins, Alvarado, & Ruef, 1998](#)), which are available for several Asian languages.
- Use ecological validity tests, such as the Test of Everyday Attention ([Robertson, Ward, Ridgeway, & Nimmo-Smith, 1994](#)).

HOW SHOULD I INTERPRET TESTING RESULTS?

- Use a hypothesis testing approach.
 - To learn more about this approach, read: [Wong & Fuji, 2004; Neuropsychology of Asian Americans by Daryl Fuji](#).

HOW SHOULD I PROVIDE TESTING FEEDBACK?

- Use a problem-focused approach, which may be more appropriate for patients who feel uncomfortable reflecting on their emotions.
- Try to simulate a feedback session as the treatment environment may increase patients' willingness to seek treatment.
- Consider family involvement.

Any questions? Please contact Dr. Y.S. Christine Lee at yuenshan.lee@nyumc.org.

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