

BDI-2 Administration Tips

Structured items must be administered with fidelity to what is described in the domain books. This includes:

- using the materials that came with the kit, or items that are very similar,
- following the instructions in the domain book
- administering test items, unless the domain book indicates that a caregiver can participate
- using the structured option first followed by observation or parent interview when the test allows
- when scoring the items, mark the administration option (structured, observation, interview) that was scored

Wording of interview questions may be changed if needed for parent understanding, but the change in wording must not change the construct being measured.

Example: The interview question asks “Does your child extend toys to people?” If the parent does not understand the word “extend,” you can explain it to him or her. You might say, “Does your child reach toward you with the hand holding the toy like she is showing it to you or giving it to you?”

Evaluators cannot “interpret” how to give the test.

- Evaluators must follow the directions indicated in the domain books and examiner manuals.
- However, clinical judgment is used when interpreting the score based on documentation.