Accepted Manuscript

Screening for Executive Dysfunction in Late Life Depression: Utility of Trail Making Test and Self-Report Measures

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PII: \$1064-7481(18)30372-5 DOI: 10.1016/j.jagp.2018.06.006

Reference: AMGP 1060

To appear in: The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry

Received date: 24 May 2018 Revised date: 14 June 2018 Accepted date: 15 June 2018



Please cite this article as: David Bickford B.A., Ruth T. Morin Ph.D., Dan Catalinotto B.A., R. Scott Mackin Ph.D., J. Craig Nelson M.D., Screening for Executive Dysfunction in Late Life Depression: Utility of Trail Making Test and Self-Report Measures, *The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry* (2018), doi: 10.1016/j.jagp.2018.06.006

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Highlights

- Executive dysfunction, shown by impairment on the SCWT and DRS-IP, has been reported to
 predict poor antidepressant response in Late Life Depression. The aim of the current study was
 to identify depressed patients with ED defined by impairment on the DRS-IP or SCWT measures
 using the TMT-B or self-reported impairment.
- Impairment on TMT-B was modestly associated with impairment on SCWT, but not with the
 DRS-IP subscale, however the TMT-B lacked sufficient sensitivity for identification of impairment
 on the SCWT or DRS-IP. The patient's self-report of executive function was also not related to
 actual test performance.
- Our results demonstrate that neither the TMT-B nor the patient's self-report are useful screening tools for impairment on the SCWT or the DRS-IP.

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