FAMILY ASSESSMENT DEVICE

BROWN/BUTLER FAMILY RESEARCH PROGRAM

BROWN UNIVERSITY
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02912
Enclosed please find the FAD packet that you ordered. You have permission to duplicate the copyrighted Family Assessment Device, the manual scoring sheet and instructions, and the Family Information Form. We may contact you in the future to receive your feedback on the instrument.

Thank you for your interest and good luck in your future project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ivan W. Miller, Ph.D.
Director, Brown University
Family Research Program
Rhode Island Hospital
593 Eddy Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903
Version 3

Nathan B. Epstein, M.D.
Lawrence M. Baldwin, Ph.D.
Duane S. Bishop, M.D.

The Brown University/Butler Hospital Family Research Program
Butler Hospital
345 Blackstone Boulevard
Providence, Rhode Island 02906

Date of Administration:_____________________________________________________

Family Role:_______________________________________________________________

Identification Number or Family Name:________________________________________
INSTRUCTIONS:

This booklet contains a number of statements about families. Please read each statement carefully, and decide how well it describes your own family. You should answer according to how you see your family.

For each statement there are four (4) possible responses:

**Strongly Agree (SA)**
- Check SA if you feel that the statement describes your family very accurately.

**Agree (A)**
- Check A if you feel that the statement describes your family for the most part.

**Disagree (D)**
- Check D if you feel that the statement does not describe your family for the most part.

**Strongly Disagree (SD)**
- Check SD if you feel that the statement does not describe your family at all.

These four responses will appear below each statement like this:

41. **We are not satisfied with anything short of perfection.**  

   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD 

   The answer spaces for statement 41 would look like this. For each statement in the booklet, there is an answer space below. Do not pay attention to the blanks at the far right-hand side of each answer space. They are for office use only.

Try not to spend too much time thinking about each statement, but respond as quickly and as honestly as you can. If you have trouble with one, answer with your first reaction. Please be sure to answer every statement and mark all your answers in the space provided below each statement.
1. Planning family activities is difficult because we misunderstand each other.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

2. We resolve most everyday problems around the house:
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

3. When someone is upset the others know why.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

4. When you ask someone to do something, you have to check that they did it.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

5. If someone is in trouble, the others become too involved.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

6. In times of crisis we can turn to each other for support.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

7. We don’t know what to do when an emergency comes up.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

8. We sometimes run out of things that we need.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

9. We are reluctant to show our affection for each other.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

10. We make sure members meet their family responsibilities.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

11. We cannot talk to each other about the sadness we feel.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

12. We usually act on our decisions regarding problems.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD
13. You only get the interest of others when something is important to them.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

14. You can't tell how a person is feeling from what they are saying.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

15. Family tasks don't get spread around enough.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

16. Individuals are accepted for what they are.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

17. You can easily get away with breaking the rules.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

18. People come right out and say things instead of hinting at them.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

19. Some of us just don't respond emotionally.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

20. We know what to do in an emergency.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

21. We avoid discussing our fears and concerns.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

22. It is difficult to talk to each other about tender feelings.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

23. We have trouble meeting our bills.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   

24. After our family tries to solve a problem, we usually discuss whether it worked or not.
   _____ SA   _____ A   _____ D   _____ SD   
25. We are too self-centered.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

26. We can express feelings to each other.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

27. We have no clear expectations about toilet habits.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

28. We do not show our love for each other.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

29. We talk to people directly rather than through go-betweens.
   _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

30. Each of us has particular duties and responsibilities.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

31. There are lots of bad feelings in the family.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

32. We have rules about hitting people.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

33. We get involved with each other only when something interests us.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

34. There's little time to explore personal interests.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

35. We often don't say what we mean.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD

36. We feel accepted for what we are.
    _____ SA _____ A _____ D _____ SD
37. We show interest in each other when we can get something out of it personally.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

38. We resolve most emotional upsets that come up.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

39. Tenderness takes second place to other things in our family.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

40. We discuss who is to do household jobs.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

41. Making decisions is a problem for our family.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

42. Our family shows interest in each other only when they can get something out of it.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

43. We are frank with each other.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

44. We don't hold to any rules or standards.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

45. If people are asked to do something, they need reminding.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

46. We are able to make decisions about how to solve problems.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

47. If the rules are broken, we don't know what to expect.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD

48. Anything goes in our family.
   ____ SA    ____ A    ____ D    ____ SD
49. We express tenderness.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

50. We confront problems involving feelings.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

51. We don't get along well together.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

52. We don't talk to each other when we are angry.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

53. We are generally dissatisfied with the family duties assigned to us.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

54. Even though we mean well, we intrude too much into each others lives.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

55. There are rules about dangerous situations.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

56. We confide in each other.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

57. We cry openly.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

58. We don’t have reasonable transport.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

59. When we don’t like what someone has done, we tell them.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD

60. We try to think of different ways to solve problems.
   ______ SA ______ A ______ D ______ SD
BROWN BUTLER FAMILY RESEARCH PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FAMILY ASSESSMENT DEVICE

1. Each member of your family, over the age of 12, should complete a FAD.

2. Please respond to the items in terms of how you feel your family has been functioning in the past two months.

3. Complete the FAD privately; away from other family members.

4. Do not discuss your responses with your family members.

5. We are interested in your personal view of your family.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FAMILY INFORMATION FORM

1. We also require general information about your family. To help us with this, we ask that either the Husband/Father or Wife/Mother complete the Family Information Form.

When you have completed the Family Assessment Device (FAD) and the Family Information Form, please return to ______________________.
FAMILY INFORMATION FORM

Only one family member should complete this form.

Family Name: ____________________________ Date: ________________
day/month/year

For each person living in your household, please list the following information, indicating the nature of each person's role in the house (e.g., husband, wife, son, daughter, sister, friend, grandmother, etc.).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Role</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Medical/ Psychiatric</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total # of Years In School</td>
<td>Problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For each family member or significant other not living in the home, list the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Name</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Education</th>
<th>Medical/ Psychiatric</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total # of Years In School</td>
<td>Problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Present marital status of heads of household: (check all that apply)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married only once</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remarried</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never married</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorced</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separated</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widowed</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of years in present marital status _______________________________________

Number of previous marriages - (male) ____________________________________________

- (female) __________________________________________

**Total family** income (all sources) during past year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Range</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 - 9,999</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000 - 19,999</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
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<tr>
<td>$20,000 - 29,999</td>
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<td>( )</td>
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<tr>
<td>$30,000 - 39,999</td>
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<td>$40,000 - 49,999</td>
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<td>$50,000 - 59,999</td>
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<td>( )</td>
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<tr>
<td>$60,000 - 69,999</td>
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<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$70,000 - 99,999</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000 +</td>
<td>( )</td>
<td>( )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you identify with any specific ethnic group? If yes, check below the **primary** ethnic group.

- Western European (British, French, German, etc.) ( )
- Eastern European (Russian, Polish, etc.) ( )
- Mediterranean (Italian, Middle Eastern, North African, Greek, Cyprian, etc.) ( )
- North American (U.S. American, Canadian) ( )
- South American (Central and South American) ( )
- African (South African) ( )
- Asian or Pacific Islander ( )
- Australian/New Zealander ( )

What is your race?

- American Indian or Alaskan native ( )
- Oriental ( )
- Black ( )
- Hispanic ( )
- White ( )
The remaining questions are to be answered for the heads of the household.

As briefly as possible, please describe:

a) What kind of work you are (or were) engaged in:
   (e.g., electronics engineer, nursing, stock-clerk, farming, etc.)
   Male: ___________________________________________________________
   Female: _________________________________________________________

b) Your major or most important activities/duties at work:
   (e.g., keeping the accounts, selling cars, operating printing press, caring for patients, etc.)
   Male: ___________________________________________________________
   Female: _________________________________________________________

c) The kind of industry or organization this work is (or was) in:
   (e.g., Radio-TV, manufacturing firm, retail shoe store, general hospital, etc.)
   Male: ___________________________________________________________
   Female: _________________________________________________________
Instructions on How to Score the FAD

The McMaster Family Assessment Device (FAD) is designed to measure family functioning as described in the McMaster Model of Family Functioning. It is made up of seven scales, one measuring overall family functioning and one for each of the six dimensions of the McMaster Model. Each of the items on the FAD belongs to only one of the seven scales. Some items describe healthy functioning while others describe unhealthy functioning. Table 1 (below) indicates the items for each scale, classified according to whether they describe healthy or unhealthy functioning.

TABLE 1

Assignment of Items to Scales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem Solving</th>
<th>Communication</th>
<th>Roles</th>
<th>Affective Responsiveness</th>
<th>Affective Involvement</th>
<th>Behavior Control</th>
<th>General Functioning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Healthy</td>
<td>2*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functioning</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>30*</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>29*</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>38</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unhealthy</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functioning</td>
<td>22*</td>
<td>8*</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items</td>
<td>35*</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>58*</td>
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</table>

It is important to note the items that are marked in Table 1 with an asterisk. These are the seven items added after the original report which increase the reliability of the three scales while not affecting their intercorrelation with other scales. We have used the 60-item version in all subsequent research and recommend others use this version.

To score the FAD, all responses are coded as follows:

- Strongly Agree = 1
- Agree = 2
- Disagree = 3
- Strongly Disagree = 4
Then the score for items describing unhealthy functioning are transformed by subtracting them from 5. This inverts the response scales on the unhealthy items and has the effect of equating a Strongly Agree response to an unhealthy item with a Strongly Disagree response to a healthy item, etc. As a result of this transformation, 1 represents a healthy response and 4 represents an unhealthy response for all items. These scored responses to the items of each scale are averaged to provide seven scale scores each having a possible range from 1.00 (healthy) to 4.00 (unhealthy).*

The manual FAD scoring sheet we have developed is included. It can be used to score an individual's responses if a computer scoring system is not used. The first step is to score all the answers in the column to the extreme left. The negative items (with an asterisk) are then transformed by subtracting them from 5 and entering them in the second column headed 'transformed score'.

On the right-hand side of the scoring sheet are seven columns of boxes, one column for each of the seven scales. The scale to which an item belongs is indicated by the column in which the box aligned with the item falls. The item scores (transformed scores for unhealthy items) are next transferred to their appropriate boxes. To calculate a scale score, simply add the scores in each column and divide the sum by the number of items in the column that were answered. Scale scores will range from 1.00 (healthy) to 4.00 (unhealthy).

We have also developed a computer program for scoring the FAD. This program provides individual scores and a family mean score, as well as item analyses. It can also be used to administer the FAD to subjects interactively. This scoring program is available for the Macintosh microcomputer, and is designed to be used with Microsoft Basic, which you must own. The cost of our program is $10.

If you prefer, the Brown/Butler Family Research Program has computer programs to score the FAD for you. These programs generate the seven dimension scale scores for individuals and some family measure scores. The family measure scores are experimental and we have not explored them in detail as of yet. They include median scores for the father, mother, patient, parent, non-parent, and non-patient family members along with maximum, median, and minimum scores for the family. We will score a family and provide a printout of the individual and family scores for a cost of $5.00 per family. We ask that you send the Family Information Form with the FAD data if you wish to have the data scored by us.

*If more than 40% of the items for a scale are missing, a scale score is not calculated, it is designated missing.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Transformed Score</th>
<th>McMaster Model Dimensions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Problem Solving</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5-</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>30</td>
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</table>

*Unhealthy items which are subtracted from 5.