Verbal Test of Practical Judgment® (VPJ®)

Name: ______________________________________________________
DOB: _________________________________________________________
Gender:    Female   /   Male
Education: ___________________________________________________
Examiner: ____________________________________________________

Today’s Date: _____________________________________________
Total Score: ________________________________________/20

*Scoring guidelines are written in the white space below each question.

1. Suppose you have been taking a medication for a long time. What might happen if you suddenly stop taking it?

2 = Serious negative consequences could arise. For example, I could become seriously ill or eventually die.
1 = Minor negative consequences could arise. For example, I could feel sick.
0 = Probably nothing would happen. I take too many medications anyway. Inaccurate or vague response.

2. Suppose you realize that you accidentally took too much of your medication. You took twice the prescribed dose. What should you do?

2 = Call my doctor and ask advice. Contact the nurse and ask advice. Call Poison Control and ask advice.
1 = Monitor my reactions and call for help if I get sick.
0 = I wouldn’t do anything. I would just wait. Inaccurate or vague response.

3. Suppose you fall in the bathroom and cannot get up. You’re home alone. What should you do?

2 = Push my pendant. Crawl to the phone and call for help. Other appropriate and active response.
0 = Lay there and wait for help.

4. Suppose you plan to microwave a frozen dinner for your meal. When taking the dinner out of the freezer, you notice it is not frozen. What do you do about eating?

2 = A plan to eat something else AND awareness that eating the microwave dinner might make one sick. (key feature)
1 = An awareness of the possible health consequences of eating spoiled food, but NO reasonable plan to eat.
1 = A plan to eat something else, but NO recognition of the possible health consequences of eating spoiled food.
0 = I would eat it anyway. Lack of awareness that spoiled food can lead to being sick.

5. Suppose you have a 5 PM appointment with your doctor. It takes 35 minutes to get there. What is the latest you can leave to get there at 5 PM?

2 = 4:25
0 = Any other answer

6. Suppose you are waiting for a taxi to take you to an appointment with your doctor. The taxi is 15 minutes late. What should you do?

2 = I would call the doctor and say I am late. I would call the doctor and see if I can reschedule the appointment.
1 = I would call the taxi service to see what happened (w/o calling the doctor).
0 = I would wait for the taxi to come. An inaccurate or vague response.
### Verbal Test of Practical Judgment® (VPJ®)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Response 2</th>
<th>Response 1</th>
<th>Response 0</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7. Suppose you haven’t bathed or showered in two weeks. Tell me what possible problems might be the result.</td>
<td>2 = At least two concrete examples or a stated association between hygiene and health. &lt;br&gt;1 = One concrete response [I could smell bad], without stating an association between hygiene and health. &lt;br&gt;0 = I don’t think showering or bathing is all that important. Inaccurate or vague response.</td>
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<td>8. Suppose you receive a check the beginning of every month that you use to meet your expenses. You have five days left in the month. The electric bill is due and you have a prescription to pick up. You can’t afford to pay both. What should you do?</td>
<td>2 = I would pay for the prescription and call the electric company and see if I can send it in late. (Recognition that patient can’t pay both, but Rx is more important). &lt;br&gt;1 = I would pay for the Rx and wait on the electric. (Understand that both can’t be paid w/o a plan for both). &lt;br&gt;0 = I would wait for next month and pay them then. Inaccurate or vague response.</td>
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<td>9. Suppose you buy a meal at a restaurant that costs $15. You hand the server $20, and she gives you $2 back. What should you do?</td>
<td>2 = Ask for the correct change. (Recognition of receiving an inaccurate change with an appropriate response). &lt;br&gt;1 = Consider the amount she owes me as the tip. &lt;br&gt;0 = I wouldn’t do anything. Inaccurate or vague response.</td>
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<td>10. Suppose someone you do not know comes to your door to sell you a magazine subscription. He asks you if he can come into your home to tell you about great magazine discounts. What should you do?</td>
<td>2 = I wouldn’t let him in. I’d ask him to leave written information and tell him that I’ll call him if I am interested. &lt;br&gt;1 = I wouldn’t answer the door. &lt;br&gt;0 = I would let him in and listen to his sales pitch. Inaccurate or vague response.</td>
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