## General Introduction

In the material to follow we suggest primary and secondary areas of cognitive function to be considered for those epilepsy studies where there is interest in screening cognitive status. If a more thorough assessment of cognition is a goal of the study, please consult the recommended Neuropsychology Instruments.

## PRIMARY MEASURES

1. IQ Estimation
   1. Purpose: To characterize level of general cognitive function and provide a frame of reference from which to interpret other tests if any are administered.
   2. \*Recommended Test: American National Adult Reading Test (AMNART)
2. Overall Mental Status
   1. Purpose: Quickly screen selected cognitive abilities with a measure that also provides an overall summary score.
   2. \*Recommended Test: Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA)
3. Memory
   1. Purpose: Assess verbal learning and memory performance, a common subjective cognitive complaint well as objective cognitive impairment in epilepsy.
   2. \*Recommended Test: Hopkins Verbal Learning Test (HVLT)

Note: While the HVLT is classified as a level C test, we suggest will follow the precedent of MATRICS, the NIMH multicenter initiative that uses the HVLT to assess memory. For this CDE we suggest that there be a neuropsychologist at one of the participating centers of a clinical trial/multicenter investigation who will serve as the consultant to entire group for training, quality control, and interpretation of results. The individual research centers do not need to have a designated psychologist or neuropsychologist for data acquisition phase of the project.

## SECONDARY MEASURES

1. Naming
   1. Purpose: To assess the ability to name common objects.
   2. \*Recommended Test: Boston Naming Test (BNT)—15 item version
2. Executive
   1. Purpose: To assess lexical retrieval, a marker of verbal executive function.
   2. \*Recommended Test: Controlled Oral Word Association (COWA), aka FAS.
3. Attention
   1. Purpose: To assess sustained attention and vigilance.
   2. Recommended Test: Continuous Performance Test-II\*

\*Recommended as Supplemental – Highly Recommended