

The 18 items of SAHL-S, ordered according to item difficulty (keys and distracters are listed in the same random order as in the field interview)

Stem	Key or Distracter		
1. empleo	__trabajo	__educación	__no se
2. convulsiones	__mareado	__tranquilo	__no se
3. infección	__mata	__virus	__no se
4. medicamento	__instrumento	__tratamiento	__no se
5. alcoholismo	__adicción	__recreo	__no se
6. riñón	__orina	__fiebre	__no se
7. dosis	__dormir	__cantidad	__no se
8. aborto espontáneo	__pérdida	__matrimonio	__no se
9. estreñimiento	__bloqueado	__suelto	__no se
10. embarazo	__parto	__niñez	__no se
11. nervios	__aburrido	__ansiedad	__no se
12. nutrición	__saludable	__gaseosa	__no se
13. indicado	__instrucción	__decisión	__no se
14. hormonas	__crecimiento	__harmonía	__no se
15. abnormal	__diferente	__similar	__no se
16. diagnóstico	__evaluación	__recuperación	__no se
17. hemorroides	__venas	__corazón	__no se
18. sífilis	__anticonceptivo	__condón	__no se

Instruction for Administering SAHL-S

SHORT ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH LITERACY-SPANISH (SAHL-S)

Interviewer's Instruction

The *Short Assessment of Health Literacy-Spanish*, or SAHL-S, contains 18 test items designed to assess a Spanish-speaking adult's ability to read and understand common medical terms. The test could help health professionals estimate the adult's health literacy level. Administration of the test could be facilitated by using laminated 4"×5" flash cards, with each card containing a medical term printed in boldface on the top and the two association words—i.e., the key and the distracter—at the bottom.

Directions to the Interviewer:

1. Before the test, the interviewer should say to the examinee:
"Le voy a mostrar tarjetas con 3 palabras en ellas. Primero, me gustaría que usted lea la palabra arriba en voz alta. Entonces, yo leeré las dos palabras debajo a usted y me gustaría que usted me dijera cuál de las dos palabras es más similar a la palabra arriba. Si usted no sabe la respuesta, por favor diga, 'no se'. No adivine."
2. Show the examinee the first card.
3. The interviewer should say to the examinee:
"Ahora, por favor, lea la palabra arriba en voz alta."
4. The interviewer should have a clipboard with a score sheet to record the examinee's answers. The clipboard should be held such that the examinee cannot see or be distracted by the scoring procedure.
5. The interviewer will then read the key and distracter (the two words at the bottom of the card) and then say:
"Cuál de las dos palabras es más similar a la palabra arriba? Si usted no sabe la respuesta, por favor diga, 'no se'."
6. The interviewer may repeat the instructions so that the examinee feels comfortable with the procedure.
7. Continue the test with the rest of the cards.
8. A correct answer for each test item is determined by both correct pronunciation and accurate association. Each correct answer gets one point. Once the test is completed, the interviewer should tally the total points to generate the SAHL-S score.
9. A score between 0 and 14 suggests the examinee has inadequate health literacy.