Beta III: Easy and Cost-effective Cognitive Ability Screening

Joseph Martinez is an intake counselor for a corrections facility. His responsibilities include evaluating assessment results and developing an individualized corrections plan for each inmate. The facility administers the Beta III, a nonverbal measure of intellectual abilities, to screen individuals as part of the assessment process. Joseph appreciates that it is the leading nonverbal measure in corrections and has been validated in this setting with more than 400 prison inmates.

The Beta III is a paper-and-pencil test that can be given individually or to groups and can easily be administered by a paraprofessional or technician with proper training and supervision.

Joseph incorporates Beta III results into corrections plans to help assign custody levels and determine eligibility for specific programs. Administration instructions are available in both English and Spanish, which helps to facilitate use with Spanish-speaking individuals.

Beta III Reliability and Validity
Extensive reliability and validity studies were conducted with Beta III. The norm sample included 1,260 adults. Validation data were collected using individuals with Mental Retardation and more than 400 prison inmates.

Beta III Advantages
- Features a nonverbal format, making it useful for evaluation of low-functioning and low-skilled individuals or those with limited English language skills
- Offers a nonverbal measure of intellectual abilities for ages 16–90
- Helps screen large groups to save time and costs
- Provides easy administration and scoring
- Administration instructions can be given in English or Spanish
- Contains low floors and high ceilings
Beta III Users & Applications

This tool is used by psychologists and educators. In addition, Beta III can be administered by technicians, paraprofessionals, and other practitioners in the fields of psychology and education if they have received appropriate training on the test and are supervised. Beta III helps to:

- Assess the cognitive ability of inmates in prison systems
- Screen individuals for more in-depth evaluation, such as disability evaluations
- Evaluate the employment readiness of potential new hires
- Determine placement of students in vocational schools
- Assess ESL individuals
- Evaluate intellectual abilities of military recruits

Beta III Subtests

- Coding
- Picture Completion
- Clerical Checking
- Picture Absurdities
- Matrix Reasoning

Beta III Overview

Age Range: 16:0–89:11
Qualification Level: B
Completion Time: 30 minutes
Administration: Paper-and-pencil
Scores/Interpretation: Scaled Scores, General IQ Score, Percentile Ranks
Scoring Options: Manual scoring
Languages: English and Spanish
Complete Kit: Includes Manual, 25 response booklets and scoring key

To learn more about the Beta III, call 800.627.7271 or visit PearsonClinical.com