MODIFIED COMMUNICATION PERFORMANCE SCALE

Name: __________________ Date: ________ Gender: ______ Last Four: ____________ Rater: ______________ Gender: _________

Context: ___Unfamiliar  ___ Familiar  ___DX dyad  ___ TX dyad  ___TX group  ___ Initial  ___Reeval  ___Audio  ___ Video
Time of Day: _______ Physical Location: ________________________________________________________
Comments:  (e.g. reactions to being videotaped, how familiar to partner)
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

(Key: 3= consistent and persistent behavior observed throughout session; 2= behavior similar to that observed in #3 but that is inconsistently present; 1= expected range of behavior for the category; 0= no instances or insufficient sample of this type of behavior could be observed for evaluation)

A. INTELLIGIBILITY
3   Speech is frequently difficult to understand
2   Speech is occasionally difficult to understand
1   Speech is always understandable with exception of words listener would not be expected to know
0  No opportunity to observe

B. PROSODY/RATE
3  Speech rhythm is consistently uneven; inflectional pattern is flat or rate is too fast or too slow
2  Deviations in speech rate, rhythm, or stress patterns are mild or inconsistently present
1  Appropriate speech rate, rhythm, inflectional and stress patterns
0  No opportunity to observe

C. BODY POSTURE/PROXEMICS
3  Body posture is turned away from others; gestures are limited or excessive; inappropriate physical contact; violates conventional social distance
2  Occasional instances of any of the above postural, gestural, physical, or proxemic behavior
1  Orients body toward others; uses appropriate gestures; respects conventional social distance
0  No opportunity to observe

D. EYE CONTACT/ AFFECT
3  Demonstrates persistently limited or flat affect, limited eye contact, or unusual eye gaze; persists in displaying inappropriate facial expressions (e.g. smirking)
2  Occasional occurrences of the above facial expression/affect/eye gaze behaviors
1  Shows appropriate emotions, facial expressions, eye contact, and gaze
0  No opportunity to observe

E. LEXICAL SELECTION
3  Displays consistent and severely limited word selection; frequently uses ambiguous or incorrect vocabulary; overuses unspecified referents resulting in ambiguity of message; paraphasia
2  Occasional instances of limited word selection, incorrect word choice, or use of unspecified referents
1  Adequate variety of words with specific and accurate use of vocabulary
0  No opportunity to observe

F. SYNTAX
3  Consistently uses ungrammatical sentence structure
2  Occasional instances of the above sentence patterns are observed; use of non-Standard American English syntactic patterns (e.g. dialectical differences)
1  Uses mature sentence patterns, phrases, clauses, and conjunctions, all conforming to Standard American English
0  No opportunity to observe

G. COHERENCE/ORGANIZATION
3  Verbal output is frequently random, diffuse, disorganized, or lacking an apparent unified theme; consistent problems with coherence of verbal output are observed
2  Occasional instances of above types of verbal disorganization
1  Planned, sequential expression of ideas; verbal output is concise, organized, and coherent
0  No opportunity to observe

H. VARIETY OF LANGUAGE USES
3  Pervasive limitations in variety of language forms used relative to the context, stereotypical language
2  Language forms used relative to the context limited to one or two of those delineated below
1  Uses language for a variety of purposes, e.g. to express feelings, to share information, to make queries and comments, to direct, to complain, and for social interaction
0  No opportunity to observe

I. TOPIC
3  Consistently does not expand or maintain a topic; makes abrupt topic shifts or introduces too many topics within time period; engage in monologue; is tangential; perseverates
Occasional instances of inadequate topic introduction, expansion, maintenance, or change
1 Can appropriately introduce, expand, maintain, and change topics; can make relevant contributions of appropriate length to the topic at hand
0 No opportunity to observe

**J. INITIATION OF CONVERSATION**
3 Limited initiation of talk in a context that calls for it
2 Inconsistently appropriate in conversation initiation skills
1 Freely initiates conversational topics
0 No opportunity to observe

**K. REPAIR**
3 Persistently inflexible in repair behavior; can’t change message when communication fails; resists or does not respond appropriately to requires to clarify message throughout the session
2 Inconsistently appropriate conversational repair skills
1 Able to revise message to facilitate listener comprehension; demonstrates flexibility; asks for clarification
0 No opportunity to observe

**L. INTERRUPTION/TURN TAKING**
3 Consistently and frequently interrupts others; does not obey turn taking signals; demonstrates consistent increased response latencies (excessive pauses between turns)
2 Occasional instances of above types of inappropriate turn taking behaviors
1 Appropriate interruption; good conversation flow; obeys social signals; appropriate response latencies
0 No opportunity to observe

**M. LISTENING**
3 Consistently appears inattentive or distractible; appears to have limitations in understand
2 Occasional instance of above types of listening difficulties
1 Attends well; provides verbal and non-verbal feedback to speaker; adequate listening comprehension for conversational speech
0 No opportunity to observe

**N. SOCIOLINGUISTIC SENSITIVITY**
3 Persistent use of an inappropriate communication style for context or participants (e.g. mismatch between style and status); uses humor or sarcasm inappropriately; swears; completely omits polite forms or conventional social closure and initiation rituals; introduces inappropriate topics (e.g. intimate self disclosures or derogatory comments about people or places)
2 An occasional instance of one of the above types of inappropriate behavior is observed
1 Varies communication style and selects topics appropriate for context and participants; uses humor or sarcasm appropriately; uses polite forms and appropriate social closure and initiation rituals
0 No opportunity to observe

**O. SHARED KNOWLEDGE**
3 Consistent use of specialized terminology or references despite information that the listener is unfamiliar with them; frequently makes inappropriate assumptions about listener’s knowledge base
2 An occasional instance of the above types of behaviors is observed
1 Does not use terminology or references that are unfamiliar to the listener without explanation; demonstrates ability to modify language behavior based on feedback from listener
0 No opportunity to observe