

Dear practitioner,

Attached to this letter is a completed NTG-EDSD tool completed by (name) _____
from (agency) _____ on your patient:

Name: _____

DOB: _____

The National Task Group- Early Detection Screen for Dementia (NTG-EDSD) tool is “an informant-based rating tool for use with adults with intellectual and developmental disability who are suspected of having changes in thinking, behavior, and adaptive skills suggestive of mild cognitive impairment or dementia... The NTG-EDSD was not designed to diagnose dementia, but to be a help in the early identification and screening process” (The NTG-EDSD Manual).

Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are at higher risk for developing dementia than those without IDD. Detecting cognitive decline can be challenging without thorough knowledge of the person’s baseline cognitive and functional abilities. The NTG-EDSD tool is a powerful resource for providers because caregivers who know the patient best provide this information.

The NTG-EDSD tool establishes baseline abilities and helps to document a change that could indicate the onset of dementia. When dementia changes are suspected, comprehensive medical evaluation is recommended to rule out reversible causes that might mimic dementia.

The completed NTG-EDSD tool is attached to this letter. The agency will complete this tool every 6 to 12 months, or more frequently for a change in baseline abilities and alert you to any changes. The National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices (NTG) considers this instrument to be in the public domain. It is available for use by anyone who does not sell it or use it for unintended or inappropriate purposes.

We hope you will find this information valuable. Further information about the NTG-EDSD tool can be found at <http://aadmd.org/ntg/screening>.

Sincerely,