Neurobehavior status describes the status of a person's physical behaviors in relation to damage to parts of the brain.



## Summary

The Neurobehavioral Assessment of Preterm Infants (NAPI) was developed to measure the neurobehavioral status in pre-term infants born at least 8 weeks premature. This instrument has many unique advantages, however, it is not known if it is valid compared to other established tests. A sample of preterm and full term infants was assessed on the same day with the Neurobehavioral Assessment of Preterm Infants (NAPI) and Einstein Neurobehavioral Assessment Scale (ENNAS), a previously validated neurobehavioral assessment. The findings demonstrated that there was good agreement between the NAPI and ENNAS. The NAPI also has many advantages unique to the ENNAS. This study provides new validation of this NAPI instrument.

## Implications for families and practitioners

The neurobehavioral status of premature infants under 36 weeks gestational age (1 month premature) can be accurately assessed by a test called Neurobehavioral Assessment of Preterm Infants. This assessment may be performed in the neonatal intensive care unit to evaluate the neurologic status of preterm infants.

## Reference

Hyman, C., Snider, L., Majnemer, A., & Mazer, B. (2005). Concurrent validity of the Neurobehavioral Assessment for Preterm Infants (NAPI) at term age. Pediatric Rehabilitation, 8, 225-234.