

<b>Outcome Measure</b>	<b>Profile of Pragmatic Impairment in Communication (PPIC)</b>
<b>Sensitivity to Change</b>	Yes
<b>Population</b>	Adult
<b>Domain</b>	Language and Communication
<b>Type of Measure</b>	Objective test
<b>ICF-Code/s</b>	d3
<b>Description</b>	<p>The Profile of Pragmatic Impairment in Communication (PPIC) (Linscott, Knight &amp; Godfrey, 2003)- formerly the Profile of Functional Impairment in Communication (PFIC) (Linscott, Knight, &amp; Godfrey, 1996) - is an objective measure of social communication skills designed specifically for use with people with TBI. It is based on principles of social communication and the specific impairments associated with TBI.</p> <p>It includes 10 feature summary scales that assess communication skills on a 6-point scale from normative (0) to very severely impaired (5), with lower scores indicating better performance.</p> <p>These summary scales consist of: logical content, general participation, quantity, quality, internal relation, external relation, clarity of expression, social style, subject matter, and aesthetics. In addition, 84 specific behavior items assess the frequency of communication impairments observed as “not at all,” “occasionally,” “often,” and “almost always/always.”</p>
<b>Properties</b>	<p>To assess the psychometric properties of the scale, videotaped dyadic social interactions of 20 patients with traumatic brain injury were rated by eight trained raters. The feature summary scales were found to have acceptable inter-rater reliabilities, and high concurrent validity and internal consistency (Linscott et al., 1996).</p> <p>Unit sample intra-class correlations, interpreted as inter-rater reliabilities generalized to just one rater, ranged between 0.43 and 0.64. Intra-class correlations for eight raters ranged between 0.86 and 0.94. Clinical and experimental studies typically employ only two raters; therefore the inter-rater reliability generalized to a two-rater situation was calculated. The squared correlation of feature summary scale scores with those that would be obtained by any two randomly selected raters ranged from 0.75 for the ‘Subject Matter’ summary scale to 0.88 for the ‘General Participation’ summary scale. The standard errors of measurement ranged between 0.15 and 0.21. These reliability measures indicate that feature summary scales have good inter-rater reliability, provided average scores are derived from at least two raters.</p>
<b>Advantages</b>	<p>Designed specifically for use with people with TBI.</p> <p>It is based on principles of social communication in regard to the specific</p>

	<p>impairments associated with TBI.</p> <p>It is considered comprehensive enough to measure the changes in the varied pragmatic communication skills addressed in treatment (Dahlberg et al., 2007).</p>
<b>Disadvantages</b>	Scoring the PFIC relies on individual interpretation of socially appropriate communication behaviours. However, averaging scores of 2 independent raters minimises the effect of any potential bias on the part of a rater.
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Reviewers</b>	<p>Leanne Togher</p> <p>Kimberley Docking</p>

### References

- Dahlberg, C.A., Cusick, C.P., Hawley, L.A., Newman, J.K., Morey, C.A., Harrison-Felix, C.L. Whiteneck, G.G. (2007). Treatment efficacy of social communication skills training after traumatic brain injury: A randomized treatment and deferred treatment controlled trial. *Archives of Physical Medical Rehabilitation*, 88, 1561-1573.
- Linscott, R.J., Knight, R.G. and Godfrey, H.P.D., (1996). Profile of Functional Impairment in communication (PFIC): a measure of communication impairment for clinical use. *Brain Injury*, 10 (6), 397- 412.
- Linscott, R.J., Knight, R.G. and Godfrey, H.P.D., (2003). Profile of Pragmatic Impairment in Communication (PPIC). Unpublished Manuscript, University of Otago, Dunedin.