



# INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE NCS DIAGNOSTIC CLASSIFICATION FORM (DCF) Version 2.0

## I. General Instructions

The diagnosis of cognitive impairment is the centerpiece of the ARIC-NCS project. Using a variety of sources of information, the diagnostic reviewers will review data on each ARIC-NCS participant who is selected to further neurocognitive review (Stage 2) and render a diagnosis of normal cognition, mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or dementia (DEM). The NCS Diagnostic Classification Form is completed by the diagnostic reviewers based on information compiled from the exam and displayed in the attached diagnostic classification materials PDF file. An overview of the diagnostic materials is found in Manual 17.

The DCF form has multiple occurrences per PPT because the initial review will be performed by 2 reviewers. When the result recorded in item 2 (reviewer diagnosis) doesn't agree between the 2 initial reviewers, the case will be assigned to an adjudicator.

## II. Detailed Instructions for Each Item

0a. Enter the date the diagnosis was completed by the reviewer. The date should reflect the date of final determination.

0b. The Reviewer ID is prefilled in this field by the CC.

0c. Date the review assigned is prefilled in this field by the CC.

### A. STATUS OF REVIEW

1. Review type will be prefilled in this field by the CC. When the review is an initial review, the field will show 'I'. When an adjudication has been assigned, the field will show 'A'. The adjudicator will have access to the DCF forms completed by the initial reviewers.

### B. SYNDROMIC DIAGNOSIS

2. Select the diagnosis based on the diagnostic classification materials. Manual 17 contains guidance to be used to assign the diagnosis.

- Select 'N' for Normal
- Select 'M' for MCI
- Select 'D' for Dementia
- Select 'U' for Unclassifiable

Items 2a, 2b, 2c, and 2d are checkboxes for the reviewer to note the reason why a diagnosis is unclassifiable. When 2d is selected, the reviewer can record additional reasons for an unclassifiable diagnosis in item 2d1.

3. The algorithmic diagnosis is found in the diagnostic classification materials. Select Y or N from the dropdown when the reviewer diagnosis differs from the algorithmic diagnosis. As a guide, the

algorithmic diagnosis maps to the reviewer diagnosis according to the following table:

<b>Algorithmic diagnosis</b>	<b>Reviewer diagnosis</b>
Prob nml, normal	N
Prob MCI, MCI	M
Prob Dem, Dem	D
Uncert rvu	U

Items 3a, 3b, 3c, and 3d are checkboxes for the reviewer to note the reason why the reviewer diagnosis differs from the algorithmic diagnosis. When 3d is selected, the reviewer can record additional reasons for why the reviewer diagnosis differs from the algorithmic diagnosis in item 3d1.