

Pseudo-Isochromatic Testing

This test is primarily used to determine whether a patient has a colour deficiency and its severity. Some versions will test for red-green defects only; other will also test for blue-yellow defects.

Target Presentation: Open the booklet to the first instructional page.

Patient/Examiner Position: The patient is corrected for near, if required. Tinted spectacle or contact lenses should be avoided. The examiner is positioned to turn the pages of the book and to observe the patient easily.

Illumination: Use an Illuminate C light source and a 75cm/30in. working distance.

Procedure:

1. Invite the patient to identify the figure seen on the page. In most cases, it will be a coloured number or shape on a somewhat dotted background of a different colour.
2. Turn to another page and ask the patient to again identify the figure, until the sequence is completed.
3. If a child or an adult is unable to read, use the section of the booklet designed for illiterates (e.g., In Ishihara's plates, the wiggly lines at the back of the booklet.)
4. A page should be turned every three seconds.

Sample Patient Instructions: "Tell me what you see on this page. You might see a letter or a number and you might not." For illiterate children and adults say, "If you see a path across the field, please trace the path with this cotton swab."

Recording: Record the patient's responses on the score sheet that is provided with the test. You may also be asked to record the total number of errors. Note sample score sheet below.

Number of Plates	Normal Person	Red-Green Deficiencies	Total Colour Blindness/ Weakeness
1	12	12	12
2	8	3	X
3	6	5	X
4	29	70	X
5	57	35	X
6	5	X	X
7	3	5	X
8	15	17	X

Normal Result: Most subjects will identify all of the figures correctly.

Interpretation: Protans, deutans, and tritans will make errors. Many score sheets will indicate the figure that the normal person will see and the alternate figure that someone with a colour deficiency will see. Each test is slightly different, so be sure to use the instruction manual for your equipment.