

Standardizing the Assessment of Service Dogs; A Literature Review of the CBARQ Behavioral Survey

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INTRODUCTION

Service dogs have a vital role in society, allowing increased independence and emotional comfort for those with chronic illnesses.

Matching clients with service dogs occurs after years of training, with uncompromising behavior qualifications. The probability of a dog meeting these standards is unlikely "Failure rates of 50%-70% are typical," (Goddard and Beilharz, 1986).

OBJECTIVES

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RESULTS

- 27 of 36 CBARQ subscales discriminated the pass-fail rate at the 95% confidence level.
- 21 of these align with both 6- and 12-month evaluations
- High scores for energy level, hyperactivity, and pulling on leash significantly related to reduced training success
- 6-month evaluation, owner-related aggression found to be highest indicator; 4:1 odds of discharge compared to non-aggressive dogs
- 12-month evaluations found leash pulling to be biggest indicator; odds of failure 2-6 times fold

Data from L. Duffy, A. Serpell, 2012

CONCLUSIONS

The C-BARQ assessment's main goal is to create an efficient vetting system before formal instruction. Currently there is no standardized behavioral assessment for working dogs. Most service dog organizations are non-profit; funds must be allocated only to high-yielding animals. C-BARQ carries the potential to distinguish unsuccessful dogs before training.

Data from L. Duffy, A. Serpell, 2012

FUTURE WORK

References

Duffy, D. L., & Serpell, J. A. (2012, April). *Predictive validity of a method for evaluating temperament in young guide and service dogs*. Retrieved from https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0168159112000433?fr=RR-2&ref=pdf_download&rr=7a44896ffcd6a21d

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