1. Where can I get ideas on which test to use with my type of research?

Review the journal literature to see what tests others have used to collect data on a similar problem. Check the “Methods” section of the article to see what test was used.
- CINAHL covers nursing and allied health
- MEDLINE covers nearly all health professions including dentistry, medicine, and nursing
- PSYCINFO covers psychology

Books on health measurement instruments (most recent editions located at the Health Sciences Library (HSL) in the reference stacks):
- Instruments for Clinical Health-Care Research: WY 20.5 I594
- Measurement of Nursing Outcomes: REF WY 16 M484
- Measures for Clinical Practice: a sourcebook: REF WM 145 C793m
- Mental Measurements Yearbook: REF BF 431 B966m (http://buros.unl.edu/buros/jsp/search.jsp)
- Rating Scales in Mental Health: REF WM 141 S158r
- Sourcebook of Adult Assessment Strategies: REF WM 141 S396s

Find more books at the Library by using Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) or keywords to search IMPULSE for books on testing or measurement. Some examples are:
- Aptitude Tests
- Clinical Nursing Research -- Instrumentation
- Educational Measurement
- Intelligence Tests
- Neuropsychological Tests
- Nursing Assessment
- Needs Assessment
- Pain Measurement
- Personality Tests
- Psychological Tests
- Questionnaires

Browse the books at the Library using the call number WM 145, the classification for psychological tests.

2. Where can I find reliability/validity information for my test?

Try Ovid’s Health and Psychosocial Instruments or EBSCO’s CINAHL to find an article about your test, which may include reliability and validity information. Ovid’s Health and Psychosocial Instruments also sometimes contains reliability/validity data within the abstract for the primary source record for a test, or it will indicate whether an article includes reliability/validity data with a “Y” in the complete record (“complete record” is a display option in Ovid).

If your test has been published and distributed by a commercial publisher, try:
- Mental Measurements Yearbook, REF BF 431 B966m (http://buros.unl.edu/buros/jsp/search.jsp)
- Tests, REF BF 431 T3446
- Tests in Print, REF BF 431 T345
Contact the author to obtain information on the reliability and validity of the test. To obtain contact information use the following strategies:

- Check a recent article by the author to find their current affiliation
- Ultimate White Pages - http://www.theultimates.com/white/
- University directories for their researchers – American Universities - http://www.clas.ufl.edu/CLAS/american-universities.html

3. Where can I find a copy of the test, manual, and scoring sheet?

   IMPORTANT NOTE: As a general rule, assume that a published test has been copyrighted and is NOT freely available. While it is not unusual to find a test reprinted in the journal literature, the scoring is rarely included and must be purchased separately. There are however, instances when a test is free, but it is not the norm.

   Check the references list of a journal article that used the test, to see if the original article discussing the design of the test or the first use of the test is cited. Then look for the article in the library (or obtain it through Interlibrary Loan). These articles often reprint the test.

ETS Test Collection http://www.ets.org/testcoll/index.html

QOLID - Quality of Life Instruments Database http://www.proqolid.org/

   Limited access provides the test name, author, intention and other identifying factors. Full access to the instruments, many of which are in a foreign language, requires a one-year subscription to the database. In 2004 the rates were 230 Euros for students and 500 Euros for academic individuals.

Health Services and Sciences Research Resources (HSRR) http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hssr_search/

Pearson Assessments http://www.pearsonassessments.com/index.htm

Use the Health and Psychosocial Instruments database in Ovid. Search by keyword, test title or author of the test. You may choose to limit your search to “BMDS Availability”, this in turn will make it possible for you to order the test from the Behavioral Measurement Database Services. If this is an option, the “BMDS” information will be available in the Abstract view of the record.

Use the books referenced above to see if they reprint the test. If they don’t, they will likely give information about the test such as price and availability.

Use IMPULSE (http://impulse.ucdenver.edu/) to determine if UC Denver HSL owns the manual for the test. Usually, a title, author, or word search should be enough to retrieve a record for the item.

Use the Prospector catalog (http://prospector.coalliance.org/) to see if a library in Colorado owns the manual or test. Request the item from the library if it is available.

Contact the author directly if it is a self-published test (use the methods described above).

4. What other resources help with test and measurement questions?

   Neuropsychology Central Assessment Links http://www.neuropsychologycentral.com/ (Select "Links" from the main menu, then Assessment.)
   Taubman Medical Library http://www.lib.umich.edu/hsl/resources/tests/
   UNC Chapel Hill Health Sciences Library http://www.hsl.unc.edu/Services/Guides/focusOnInstruments.cfm