

Cornell Scale for Depression in Dementia

Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Date _____

Inpatient

Nursing Home Resident

Outpatient

Scoring System

A = unable to evaluate 0 = absent 1 = mild or intermittent 2 = severe

Ratings should be based on symptoms and signs occurring during the week prior to interview. No score should be given in symptoms result from physical disability or illness.

A. Mood-Related Signs

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Anxiety: anxious expression, ruminations, worrying | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2. Sadness: sad expression, sad voice, tearfulness | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 3. Lack of reactivity to pleasant events | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 4. Irritability: easily annoyed, short-tempered | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |

B. Behavioral Disturbance

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|--|---|---|---|---|
| 5. Agitation: restlessness, handwringing, hairpulling | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 6. Retardation: slow movement, slow speech, slow reactions | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 7. Multiple physical complaints (score 0 if GI symptoms only) | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 8. Loss of interest: less involved in usual activities
(score only if change occurred acutely, i.e. in less than 1 month) | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |

C. Physical Signs

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|--|---|---|---|---|
| 9. Appetite loss: eating less than usual | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 10. Weight loss (score 2 if greater than 5 lb. in 1 month) | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 11. Lack of energy: fatigues easily, unable to sustain activities
(score only if change occurred acutely, i.e., in less than 1 month) | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |

D. Cyclic Functions

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12. Diurnal variation of mood: symptoms worse in the morning | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 13. Difficulty falling asleep: later than usual for this individual | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 14. Multiple awakenings during sleep | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 15. Early morning awakening: earlier than usual for this individual | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |

E. Ideational Disturbance

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16. Suicide: feels life is not worth living, has suicidal wishes,
or makes suicide attempt | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 17. Poor self esteem: self-blame, self-depreciation, feelings of failure | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 18. Pessimism: anticipation of the worst | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 19. Mood congruent delusions: delusions of poverty, illness, or loss | a | 0 | 1 | 2 |