

WEISS FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT RATING SCALE (WFIRS) INSTRUCTIONS

Purpose

- ADHD symptoms and actual impairment overlap but are distinct concepts. It is important to measure both since some patients are highly symptomatic but not impaired or vice versa
- This scale contains those items that are most likely to represent the patient's target of treatment. Therefore, the use of the scale before and after treatment can allow the clinician to determine not only if the ADHD has improved, but if the patient's functional difficulties are also better.
- This instrument has been translated into 18 languages. It has been used in many studies and is psychometrically validated. This is the only measure of functional impairment that looks at specific domains and has been validated in the ADHD population.

Design and Validation Information

Scoring The instrument uses a Likert scale such that any item rating 2 or 3 is clinically impaired. The scale can be scored by looking at the total score or by creating a mean score for the total score/number items for each domain, omitting those rated not applicable. For clinical purposes, when defining impairment for DSM-IV, clinicians can consider that any domain with at least two items scored 2, one item scored 3 or a mean score >1.5 is impaired.

Validation The scale has been psychometrically validated with an internal consistency $>.8$ for each domain and for the scale as a whole. It has moderate convergent validity (0.6) with other measures of functioning (i.e. Columbia Impairment Scale and the Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF)). It has moderate discriminating validity (0.4) from symptoms pre-treatment (i.e. ADHD-Rating Scale) and quality of life (CHIP). The domains have been confirmed by factor analysis, although the domain of school functioning separates into learning and behaviour. The scale is highly sensitive to change with treatment and, in particular, significantly correlated to change in ADHD symptoms (40% change) and overall psychopathology. Each anchor point on the Likert scale represents approximately one standard deviation (SD). A total score change of 13 would be considered a significant improvement or about half a SD. The change obtained in treatment is typically one full SD. The mean score for risky behaviour in children is 0.5 but increases with age. For adolescents the mean score is 1.

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Patient Name:

Date of Birth:

Physician Name:

MRN/File No:

Date:

WEISS FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT RATING SCALE – SELF REPORT (WFIRS-S)

Name: _____ Date: DD MM YY

Date of birth: DD MM YY Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Work: ☐ Full time ☐ Part time ☐ Other _____

School: ☐ Full time ☐ Part time

Circle the number for the rating that best describes how your emotional or behavioural problems have affected each item in the last month.

		Never or not at all	Sometimes or somewhat	Often or much	Very often or very much	n/a
A	FAMILY					
1	Having problems with family	0	1	2	3	n/a
2	Having problems with spouse/partner	0	1	2	3	n/a
3	Relying on others to do things for you	0	1	2	3	n/a
4	Causing fighting in the family	0	1	2	3	n/a
5	Makes it hard for the family to have fun together	0	1	2	3	n/a
6	Problems taking care of your family	0	1	2	3	n/a
7	Problems balancing your needs against those of your family	0	1	2	3	n/
8	Problems losing control with family	0	1	2	3	n/a
B	WORK					
1	Problems performing required duties	0	1	2	3	n/a
2	Problems with getting your work done efficiently	0	1	2	3	n/a
3	Problems with your supervisor	0	1	2	3	n/a
4	Problems keeping a job	0	1	2	3	n/a
5	Getting fired from work	0	1	2	3	n/a
6	Problems working in a team	0	1	2	3	n/a
7	Problems with your attendance	0	1	2	3	n/a
8	Problems with being late	0	1	2	3	n/a
9	Problems taking on new tasks	0	1	2	3	n/a
10	Problems working to your potential	0	1	2	3	n/a
11	Poor performance evaluations	0	1	2	3	n/a

		Never or not at all	Sometimes or somewhat	Often or much	Very often or very much	n/a
C	SCHOOL					
1	Problems taking notes	0	1	2	3	n/a
2	Problems completing assignments	0	1	2	3	n/a
3	Problems getting your work done efficiently	0	1	2	3	n/a
4	Problems with teachers	0	1	2	3	n/a
5	Problems with school administrators	0	1	2	3	n/a
6	Problems meeting minimum requirements to stay in school	0	1	2	3	n/a
7	Problems with attendance	0	1	2	3	n/a
8	Problems with being late	0	1	2	3	n/a
9	Problems with working to your potential	0	1	2	3	n/a
10	Problems with inconsistent grades	0	1	2	3	n/a
D	LIFE SKILLS					
1	Excessive or inappropriate use of internet, video games or TV	0	1	2	3	n/a
2	Problems keeping an acceptable appearance	0	1	2	3	n/a
3	Problems getting ready to leave the house	0	1	2	3	n/a
4	Problems getting to bed	0	1	2	3	n/a
5	Problems with nutrition	0	1	2	3	n/a
6	Problems with sex	0	1	2	3	n/a
7	Problems with sleeping	0	1	2	3	n/a
8	Getting hurt or injured	0	1	2	3	n/a
9	Avoiding exercise	0	1	2	3	n/a
10	Problems keeping regular appointments with doctor/dentist	0	1	2	3	n/a
11	Problems keeping up with household chores	0	1	2	3	n/a
12	Problems managing money	0	1	2	3	n/a
E	SELF-CONCEPT					
1	Feeling bad about yourself	0	1	2	3	n/a
2	Feeling frustrated with yourself	0	1	2	3	n/a
3	Feeling discouraged	0	1	2	3	n/a
4	Not feeling happy with your life	0	1	2	3	n/a
5	Feeling incompetent	0	1	2	3	n/a
F	SOCIAL					
1	Getting into arguments	0	1	2	3	n/a
2	Trouble cooperating	0	1	2	3	n/a
3	Trouble getting along with people	0	1	2	3	n/a
4	Problems having fun with other people	0	1	2	3	n/a
5	Problems participating in hobbies	0	1	2	3	n/a
6	Problems making friends	0	1	2	3	n/a
7	Problems keeping friends	0	1	2	3	n/a
8	Saying inappropriate things	0	1	2	3	n/a
9	Complaints from neighbours	0	1	2	3	n/a

		Never or not at all	Sometimes or somewhat	Often or much	Very often or very much	n/a
G	RISK					
1	Aggressive driving	0	1	2	3	n/a
2	Doing other things while driving	0	1	2	3	n/a
3	Road rage	0	1	2	3	n/a
4	Breaking or damaging things	0	1	2	3	n/a
5	Doing things that are illegal	0	1	2	3	n/a
6	Being involved with the police	0	1	2	3	n/a
7	Smoking cigarettes	0	1	2	3	n/a
8	Smoking marijuana	0	1	2	3	n/a
9	Drinking alcohol	0	1	2	3	n/a
10	Taking "street" drugs	0	1	2	3	n/a
11	Sex without protection (birth control, condom)	0	1	2	3	n/a
12	Sexually inappropriate behaviour	0	1	2	3	n/a
13	Being physically aggressive	0	1	2	3	n/a
14	Being verbally aggressive	0	1	2	3	n/a

SCORING:

1. Number of items scored 2 or 3
or
2. Total score
or
3. Mean score

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA	
A. Family	
B. Work	
C. School	
D. Life skills	
E. Self-concept	
F. Social	
G. Risk	
Total	



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