

Geriatric Depression Scale (Short Form)

Patient's Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Choose the best answer for how you felt over the past week. Note: when asking the patient to complete the form, provide the self-rated form (included on the following page).

No.	Question	Answer	Score
1.	Are you basically satisfied with your life?	YES / <i>NO</i>	
2.	Have you dropped many of your activities and interests?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
3.	Do you feel that your life is empty?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
4.	Do you often get bored?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
5.	Are you in good spirits most of the time?	YES / <i>NO</i>	
6.	Are you afraid that something bad is going to happen to you?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
7.	Do you feel happy most of the time?	YES / <i>NO</i>	
8.	Do you often feel helpless?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
9.	Do you prefer to stay at home, rather than going out and doing new things?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
10.	Do you feel you have more problems with memory than most people?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
11.	Do you think it is wonderful to be alive?	YES / <i>NO</i>	
12.	Do you feel pretty worthless the way you are now?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
13.	Do you feel full of energy?	YES / <i>NO</i>	
14.	Do you feel that your situation is hopeless?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
15.	Do you think that most people are better off than you are?	<i>YES</i> / NO	
TOTAL			

(Sheikh & Yesavage, 1986)

Scoring:

Answers indicating depression are in bold and italicized; score one point for each one selected. A score of 0 to 5 is normal. A score greater than 5 suggests depression.

Sources:

- Sheikh JI, Yesavage JA. Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS): recent evidence and development of a shorter version. *Clin Gerontol.* 1986 June;5(1/2):165-173.
- Yesavage JA. Geriatric Depression Scale. *Psychopharmacol Bull.* 1988;24(4):709-711.
- Yesavage JA, Brink TL, Rose TL, et al. Development and validation of a geriatric depression screening scale: a preliminary report. *J Psychiatr Res.* 1982-83;17(1):37-49.

Geriatric Depression Scale (Short Form) Self-Rated Version

Patient's Name: _____

Date: _____

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No.	Question	Answer	Score
1.	Are you basically satisfied with your life?	YES / NO	
2.	Have you dropped many of your activities and interests?	YES / NO	
3.	Do you feel that your life is empty?	YES / NO	
4.	Do you often get bored?	YES / NO	
5.	Are you in good spirits most of the time?	YES / NO	
6.	Are you afraid that something bad is going to happen to you?	YES / NO	
7.	Do you feel happy most of the time?	YES / NO	
8.	Do you often feel helpless?	YES / NO	
9.	Do you prefer to stay at home, rather than going out and doing new things?	YES / NO	
10.	Do you feel you have more problems with memory than most people?	YES / NO	
11.	Do you think it is wonderful to be alive?	YES / NO	
12.	Do you feel pretty worthless the way you are now?	YES / NO	
13.	Do you feel full of energy?	YES / NO	
14.	Do you feel that your situation is hopeless?	YES / NO	
15.	Do you think that most people are better off than you are?	YES / NO	
TOTAL			

(Sheikh & Yesavage, 1986)