



Modified Oswestry Low Back Pain Disability Questionnaire

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please Read: This questionnaire has been designed to give the doctor information as to how your back pain has affected your ability to manage in everyday life. Please answer every section and mark in each section only the one box which applies to you. We realize you may consider that two of the statements in any one section relate to you, but please just mark the box which most closely describes your problem.

Section 1 - Pain Intensity:

- A. I can tolerate the pain I have without having to use medication.
- B. The pain is bad but I can manage without taking medication.
- C. Pain medication provides me with complete relief from pain.
- D. Pain medication provides me with moderate relief from pain.
- E. Pain medication provides me with little relief from pain.
- F. Pain medication have no effect on the pain.

Section 2 - Personal Care (Washing, Dressing, etc.)

- A. I can take care of myself normally without causing increased pain.
- B. I can take care of myself normally but it increases my pain.
- C. It is painful to take care of myself & I am slow and careful.
- D. I need help, but I am able to manage most of my personal care.
- E. I need help everyday in most aspects of self care.
- F. I do not get dressed, wash with difficulty & stay in bed.

Section 3 - Lifting

- A. I can lift heavy weights without increased pain.
- B. I can lift heavy weights but it causes increased pain.
- C. Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights off the floor, but I can manage if the weights are conveniently positioned. (e.g., on the table)
- D. Pain prevents me from lifting heavy weights but, I can manage light to medium weights if they are conveniently positioned.
- E. I can lift only very light weights.
- F. I cannot lift or carry anything at all.

Section 4 - Walking

- A. Pain does not prevent me walking any distance.
- B. Pain prevents me walking more than 1 mile.
- C. Pain prevents me walking more than 1/2 mile.
- D. Pain prevents me walking more than 1/4 mile.
- E. I can only walk with crutches or a cane.
- F. I am in bed most of the time & have to crawl to the toilet.

Section 5 - Sitting

- A. I can sit in any chair as long as I like.
- B. I can only sit in my favorite chair for as long as I like.
- C. Pain prevents me sitting more than 1 hour.
- D. Pain prevents me from sitting more than 1/2 hour.
- E. Pain prevents me from sitting more than 10 minutes.
- F. Pain prevents me from sitting at all.

Section 6 - Standing

- A. I can stand as long as I want without increased pain.
- B. I can stand as long as I want, but it increases my pain.
- C. Pain prevents me from standing for more than 1 hour.
- D. Pain prevents me from standing for more than 30 minutes.
- E. Pain prevents me from standing for more than 10 minutes.
- F. Pain prevents me from standing at all.

Section 7 - Sleeping

- A. Pain does not prevent me from sleeping well.
- B. I can sleep well only by using pain medication.
- C. Even when I take pain medication, I sleep less than 6 hours.
- D. Even when I take pain medication, I sleep less than 4 hours.
- E. Even when I take pain medication, I sleep less than 2 hours.
- F. Pain prevents me from sleeping at all.

Section 8 - Social Life

- A. My social life is normal and does not increase my pain.
- B. My social life is normal, but it increases my level of pain.
- C. Pain prevents me from participating in more energetic activities (e.g., sports, dancing, etc.).
- D. Pain prevents me from going out very often.
- E. Pain has restricted my social life to my home.
- F. I have hardly any social life because of pain.

Section 9 - Traveling

- A. I can travel anywhere without increased pain.
- B. I can travel anywhere, but it increases my pain.
- C. My pain restricts my travel over 2 hours.
- D. My pain restricts my travel over 1 hour.
- E. My pain restricts my travel to short necessary journeys under 1/2 hour.
- F. My pain prevents all travel except for visits to the physician/therapist or hospital.

Section 10 - Employment/Homemaking

- A. My normal homemaking/job activities do not cause pain.
- B. My normal homemaking/job activities increase my pain, but I can still perform all that is required of me.
- C. I can perform most of my homemaking/job duties, but pain prevents me from performing more physically stressful activities (e.g., lifting, vacuuming).
- D. Pain prevents me from doing anything but light duties.
- E. Pain prevents me from doing even light duties.
- F. Pain prevents me from performing any job or homemaking chores.

Score: _____ out of 50. _____ % dysfunction.