

Multiple Sclerosis Impact Scale (MSIS-29)

Overview: The Multiple Sclerosis Impact Scale (MSIS-29) can be used measure therapeutic outcome in a patient with multiple sclerosis (MS). The authors are from the Institute of Neurology (London) London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and University of Oxford in England.

NOTE: This scale is copyright Neurological Outcome Measures Unit. Copies are available from Dr Hobart at J.Hobart@ion.ucl.ac.uk (as of 2002).

There are 29 items covering findings over the previous 2 weeks:

(1) 3 items dealing with limited abilities

(2) 26 items related to being bothered by symptoms or consequences of illness

Responses use a 5 point Likert scale range from 1 to 5 (not at all a little moderately quite a bit extremely).

where:

- All questions need to be answered.
- All responses are in the same "direction".

total score = SUM(points for all 29 questions)

Interpretation:

- minimum score: 29
- maximum score: 145
- The higher the score the greater the degree of disability.

Performance:

- Effects sizes show evidence of good responsiveness.
- Test-retest reliability is high (r values 0.65 to 0.90)
- Internal consistency high (Cronbach's alpha 0.91)

References:

Hobart J Lamping D et al. The Multiple Sclerosis Impact Scale (MSIS-29). A new patient-based outcome measure. Brain. 2001; 124: 962-973 (Appendix I pages 972-973).