

Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire (FIQ) Scoring

The FIQ is an assessment and evaluation instrument developed to measure fibromyalgia (FM) patient status, progress and outcomes. It has been designed to measure the components of health status that are believed to be most affected by FM. The average FM patient scores about 50, severely afflicted patients are usually 70 plus.

The content of the FIQ is composed of 10 items. The FIQ is scored in such a way that a higher score indicates a greater impact of the syndrome on the person. Each of the 10 items has a maximum possible score of 10. Thus the maximum possible score is 100. The questionnaire is scored in the following manner:

1. The first item consists of 11 questions that make up a physical functioning scale. The 11 questions are scored and summed to yield one physical impairment score. Each item is rated on a 4 point Likert type scale. Raw scores on each item can range from 0 (always) to 3 (never) - thus the highest total possible raw score is 33. Because some patients may not do some of the tasks listed, they are given the option of deleting items from scoring. In order to obtain a valid summed score for questions 1 through 11, the scores for the items that the patient has rated are summed and divided by the number of items rated. An average raw score between 0 and 3 is obtained in this manner.

2. Item 2 is recoiled so that a higher number indicates impairment (i.e., 0=7, 7=0, etc.). Raw scores can range from 0 to 7.

3. Item 3 is scored as number of days the patient was unable to do regular work activities. Raw scores can range from 0 to 7.

4. Items 4 through 10 are visual analog scales marked in 10 increments on which the patient rates work difficulty, pain, fatigue, morning tiredness, stiffness, anxiety and depression. The items are scored in 10 increments. Raw scores can range from 0 to 10. If the patient marks the space between two vertical lines on any item, that item is given a score that includes 0.5.

5. Once the initial scoring has been completed, the resulting scores are subjected to a normalization procedure so that all scores are expressed in similar units.

Each of the 10 questions scores 10 maximum - thus scoring of the 0-10 anchored VASs is obvious.

The maximum raw score for question #1 is 3 - thus this has to be multiplied by a factor of 3.33 (i.e. $3 \times 3.33 = 10$)

The score for question #2 is reversed thus 7 = 1 and 0 = 7. To normalize this score to 10 multiply score by 1.43 (i.e. $7 \times 1.43 = 10$).

The score for question #3 is treated the same as #2.

| <u>SCALE</u> | <u>ITEMS</u> | <u>RECODE</u> | <u>SCORE RANGE</u> | <u>NORMALIZATION</u> |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| *Physical Impairment | 1 | No | 0-3 | S X 3.33 (S=raw score) |
| *Feel Good | 2 | Yes | 0-7 | S X 1.43 |
| Work Missed | 3 | No | 0-7 | S X 1.43 |
| Do Job | 4 | No | 0-10 | None |
| *Pain | 5 | No | 0-10 | None |

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|------|
| *Fatigue | 6 | No | 0-10 | None |
| *Rested | 17 | No | 0-10 | None |
| *Stiffness | 8 | No | 0-10 | None |
| *Anxiety | 9 | No | 0-10 | None |
| *Depression | 10 | No | 0-10 | None |

In order to maintain a maximum possible score of 100 it is necessary to employ an "equalization calculation" if a patient does not answer all 10 items. If one or more items are missed, the final summative score needs to be multiplied by $10/x$. (i.e. if one question is missed multiply by $10/9 = 1.111$, if 2 questions are missed multiply final score by $10/8 = 1.25$ etc.).

Citation: Burckhardt, C.S., Clark, S.R., & Bennett, R.M. (1991). The Fibromyalgia Impact Questionnaire: Development and validation. Journal of Rheumatology, 18, 728-734