

# FIBROMYALGIA IMPACT QUESTIONNAIRE (FIQ) SCORING

**Purpose:** 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.

**Content:** The FIQ is composed of 20 items. The first 11 items make up a physical functioning scale. Each item is rated on a 4 point likert type scale. Items 12 and 13 ask patients to mark the number of days they felt well and number of days they were unable to work because of FM symptoms. Items 14 through 20 are visual analog scales marked in 10 increments on which the patient rates work difficulty, pain, fatigue, morning tiredness, stiffness, anxiety and depression.

**Scoring:** The FIQ is scored in such a way that a higher score indicates a greater impact of fibromyalgia on the person. The maximum possible score is 100. The questionnaire is scored in the following manner:

1. Items 1 through 11 are scored and summed to yield one physical impairment score. Raw scores on each item can range from 0 (always) to 3 (never). 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 items 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 12 is reversed so that a higher number indicates impairment (i.e., 0=7, 7=0, etc.). Raw scores can range from 0 to 7.

3. Item 13 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 14 through 20 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 score for question #1 is 30 - thus this has to be multiplied by a factor of 0.33 ( i.e.  $30 \times 0.33 = 10$ )

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

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

If one or more questions are missed, multiply the final summative score 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.).

SCALE	ITEMS	RECODE	SCORE RANGE	NORMALIZATION
Physical Impairment	1-11	No	0-3	S X 3.33 (S=raw score)
Feel Good	12	Yes	0-7	S X 1.43
Work Missed	13	No	0-7	S X 1.43
Do Job	14	No	0-10	None
Pain	15	No	0-10	None
Fatigue	16	No	0-10	None
Rested	17	No	0-10	None
Stiffness	18	No	0-10	None
Anxiety	19	No	0-10	None
Depression	20	No	0-10	None

6. The total score provides an estimation of fibromyalgia impact which ranges from 0 to 100

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