



Comfort

Pain Assessment

Table 4.

Table 4: Selected Multidimensional Pain Instruments¹

Adapted from Puntillo, K.A. & Wilkie, D.J. (1991) Assessment of pain in the critically ill. In K. A. Puntillo (ed.) *Pain in the Critically Ill: Assessment and Management* (pp. 56-57). Gaithersberg, MD: Aspen Reprinted with permission.

Memorial Pain Assessment Card

- *Population:* Hospitalized adult cancer patients without severe physical or cognitive impairments
- *Authors:* Fishman et. al²
- *Description:*
 - 8.5”x11 card folded in half
 - 3 sides have VASs to measure relief, intensity, mood
 - 4th side has randomly placed set of pain intensity words
- *Dimensions measured:* sensory, affective (general psychological distress; may not be pain related)
- *Validity:* construct, correlation with McGill Pain Questionnaire and among subscales
- *Reliability:* not reported
- *Completion time:* >20 seconds for experienced patient
- *Scoring Methods:*
 - Patient marks VASs
 - response measured by clinician
 - pain intensity words circled

Pain-O-Meter

- *Population:* Labor, post-operative, cancer, chronic pain
- *Authors:* Gaston-Johansson & Ashland-Gustaffsson;³ Gaston-Johansson, Fridh, & Turner-Novell;⁴ Gaston-Johansson⁵
- *Description:*
 - plastic 8” x 2” x 1” card
 - side 1 has 11 affective words
 - side 2 has 10-cm VAS
- *Dimensions measured:* sensory, affective
- *Validity:* construct
- *Reliability:* test-retest

- *Completion time:* >2 minutes
- *Scoring Methods:* sensory and affective words assigned numbers 1-5

Pain Assessment Tool

- *Population:* Chronic
- *Author:* McGuire⁶
- *Description:*
 - one page
 - includes demographic information; questions about intensity, location, quality, onset, patient's view
 - area to document intervention plan
- *Dimensions measured:* sensory, behavioral, physiological
- *Validity:* not reported
- *Reliability:* not reported
- *Completion time:* 10-15 minutes
- *Scoring methods:*
 - patient points to or traces area of pain
 - uses own words to describe pain
 - rates intensity of pain on 0-10 number scale
 - answers series of questions about onset, alleviation, aggravation of pain

Short-form McGill Pain Questionnaire

- *Population:* Postoperative, obstetric, dental, musculoskeletal
- *Author:* Melzak⁷
- *Description:*
 - one page
 - includes 11 sensory and 4 affective word descriptors
 - verbal intensity scale
 - VAS
- *Dimensions measured:* sensory, affective
- *Validity:* concurrent
- *Reliability:* not reported
- *Completion time:* 2-5 minutes
- *Scoring methods:*
 - words are read to patient, who selects as many as describe pain
 - intensity of each quality of pain (word) is rated by patient (none, mild, moderate, severe)
 - patient selects word to describe intensity of pain and marks VAS

Melzak-McGill Pain Questionnaire

- *Population:* Acute, chronic, cancer, experimental
- *Author:* Mount, Melzak & Mackinnon⁸; Melzak & Torgerson⁹; Melzak¹⁰; Dubuisson & Melzak¹¹; Turk, Rudy & Salorvey¹²; Graham, Bond, Gerkovich & Cook¹³; Chen & Treede¹⁴

- *Description:*
 - one page
 - includes 78 word descriptors in 20 categories
 - 3 pattern words
 - body outline
 - associated symptoms (e.g., sleep, food, activity)
 - intensity scale
- *Dimensions measured:* sensory, affective, psychological, cognitive, behavioral
- *Validity:* content, concurrent, predictive, construct
- *Reliability:* test-retest
- *Completion time:* >15 minutes
- *Scoring methods:*
 - words are read to patient who selects no more than one word/group
 - predetermined rank values of sensory, affective, evaluative, miscellaneous words summed for subscale scores
 - patient marks body outline and picks intensity word (scored 1-5)

Pain Perception Profile

- *Population:* Chronic headache, experimental
- *Author:* Tursky¹⁵; Tursky, Jamner & Friedman¹⁶
- *Description:*
 - 4-page protocol
 - part III may be useful in critical care
 - includes 3-column word list with 12 intensity, 12 unpleasantness; 13 feeling descriptors that have been quantified by means of scaling techniques
- *Dimensions measured:* sensory, affective
- *Validity:* content, concurrent
- *Reliability:* stable
- *Completion time:* not reported
- *Scoring methods:*
 - patient selects one word per group
 - score based on a priori value assigned to word

References:

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15. Tursky, B. (1976). Development of pain perception profile. In M. Weisenberg & B. Tursky (Eds.), *Pain: New perspectives in therapy and research* (pp. 171-174). New York: Plenum.
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