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Measurement Scale Fact Sheet

Index of Sexual Satisfaction (ISS)

The Index of Sexual Satisfaction, or ISS, scale was designed to measure the degree, severity, or magnitude of a problem in the sexual component of a dyadic relationship. The ISS scale measures the degree of sexual discord or dissatisfaction that is felt or perceived by a client with respect to the sexual relationship with a partner or spouse. The items on the ISS were designed so that they will not be offensive or repugnant to people having different moral convictions and attitudes with respect to human sexual behavior. Although the ISS and IMS scales tend to be highly correlated with one another, they measure two different problems. Neither of these scales can be used as a substitute for the other.

Score Interpretation

The scale produces scores that range from 0 to 100. For all practical purposes the scores can be regarded as true ratio scale values.

Cutting Scores

This scale has two clinical cutting scores. The first is a score of 30. Clients who score below 30, assuming accurate and candid responses, can be presumed to be free of a clinically significant problem in this area. Clients who score above 30 can be presumed to have a clinically significant problem in this area.

The second cutting score is 70. Clients who achieve scores this large or larger are nearly always experiencing severe distress. When distress reaches this level, there is a clear possibility that some form of violence could be considered or used as a means of dealing with problems in this area. The therapist or counselor should not assume that violence is in the offing. However, it is a distinct possibility, and it should be investigated by the service provider.

Reliability

This scale consistently achieves an Alpha coefficient of .90 or larger.

Validity

This scale has been investigated with respect to content, construct, factorial, and known groups validity. It nearly always achieves validity coefficients of .60 or greater.

Readability Statistics

Flesch Reading Ease: 79; Gunning's Fog Index: 8; Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 5.

References

The following references provide the currently available research evidence concerning the psychometric characteristics for this measure.

Murphy, 1978; Murphy, Hudson & Cheung, 1980; Hudson, Harrison, and Crosscup, 1981.



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ISS

INDEX OF SEXUAL SATISFACTION

Name _____

Date _____

SAMPLE

This questionnaire is designed to measure the degree of satisfaction you have in the sexual relationship with your partner. It is not a test, so there are no right or wrong answers. Answer each item carefully and as accurately as you can, placing a number beside each one as follows:

- 1 = None of the time
- 2 = Very rarely
- 3 = A little of the time
- 4 = Some of the time
- 5 = A good part of the time
- 6 = Most of the time
- 7 = All of the time

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1. _____
 2. _____ Our sex life is very exciting.
 3. _____
 4. _____ Sex with my partner has become a chore for me.
 5. _____ I feel that our sex is dirty and disgusting.
 6. _____
 7. _____ When we have sex it is too rushed and hurriedly completed.
 8. _____
 9. _____
 10. _____
 11. _____ I feel that my partner wants too much sex from me.
 12. _____
 13. _____ My partner dwells on sex too much.
 14. _____ I try to avoid sexual contact with my partner.
 15. _____
 16. _____
 17. _____
 18. _____ My partner does not want sex when I do.
 19. _____
 20. _____ My partner seems to avoid sexual contact with me.
 21. _____
 22. _____
 23. _____ My partner is very sensitive to my sexual needs and desires.
 24. _____
 25. _____ I feel that my sex life is boring.