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| Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS; Deiner Scale) | | |
| **Assessment Overview** | | |
| Assessment Area   |  | | --- | | **ICF Domain:**  Quality of Life | | Summary   |  | | --- | | The Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS) is a generic self-report quality of life scale, designed to address the concept of life satisfaction as a whole rather than to assess satisfaction with sub-dimensions of life (Diener et al. 1985).  It measures the “discrepancy or balance” between one’s life achievements and expectations. Participants respond to the items of the SWLS on a 7-point Likert scale, ranging from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (7). One item on the questionnaire is potentially sensitive. | | |
| You Will Need   |  | | --- | | **Length:**  5 minutes, 5 items  **Scoring:**  Items scored 1-7. Total score (5-35) is sum of all items. | |
| Availability   |  | | --- | | **Worksheet:** Can be found [here](https://scireproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/worksheet_swls.pdf).  **Languages:** English and many other languages. | | |
| **Assessment Interpretability** | | |
| Minimal Clinically Important Difference   |  | | --- | | Not established in SCI | | Statistical Error   |  | | --- | | **Standard Error of Measurement:**  4.67  **Minimal Detectable Change:**  12.95  (Calculated from Dijkers 1999; n=2183; 1766 males, 417 females; 1-20 years post-SCI) | | Typical Values   |  | | --- | | **Mean (SD) Values:**  Item 1: 3.76(2.06)  Item 2: 3.75(2.01)  Item 3: 4.34(2.02)  Item 4: 4.28(2.01)  Item 5: 3.29(2.10)  Total: 19.4(7.9)  (NSCID records; Dijkers 1999; n=2183; 1766 males, 417 females; 1-20 years post-SCI)  **Threshold Values:**  Very high satisfaction: 35-30  High satisfaction: 29-25  Average satisfaction: 24-20  Slightly below average: 19-15  Dissatisfied: 14-10  Extremely dissatisfied: 9-5  (Diener 2006) | |

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| **Measurement Properties** | | | |
| Validity – **Low** to **High**   |  | | --- | | **High correlation with Assistive Technology Device Predisposition Assessment (ATD-PA) QOL Subset:**  Correlation = 0.89  **High correlation with Brief Symptom Inventory (BSI):**  Correlation = -0.64  (Scherer & Cushman 2001; n=20; 10 males, 10 females; paraplegia and tetraplegia, acute SCI)  **Low to Moderate correlation with Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9):**  PHQ Affective subscore correlation = -0.368 to -0.463  PHQ Somatic subscore correlation = -0.248 to -0.346  (Richardson & Richards 2008; n=2570; traumatic SCI; 1-25 years post-injury)  **Number of studies reporting validity data:** 7 | | | Reliability – **Moderate** to **High**   |  | | --- | | **Moderate Test-retest Reliability:**  Correlation = 0.65  (93-626 day interval, median 347 days; Dijkers 1999; n=2183; 1766 males, 417 females; 1-20 years post-SCI)  **High Internal Consistency:**  α = 0.92  (Krause et al. 2009; n=727; 70.2% males, traumatic SCI, 53.3% cervical injuries; mean time since injury = 18.2 years)  **High Internal Consistency:**  α = 0.85  \*increase from 0.85 to 0.86 when item 5 was removed  (Amtmann et al. 2019; n=17897 participants with SCI, TBI, or burn injury; n=8566 with SCI; tetraplegia and paraplegia; mean age 38.94 years)  **Number of studies reporting reliability data:** 5 | | |
| Responsiveness | | | |
| **Floor/Ceiling Effect:**  Not established in SCI | **Effect Size:**  Not established in SCI | | **Number of studies reporting responsiveness data:** 0 |