

5-Item Sacral Sparing Questionnaire

Assessment Overview

Assessment Area

ICF Domain:

Body Functions

Subcategory:

Sensory and Pain

You Will Need

Length:

5-Items – less than 5 minutes

Scoring:

Each item is answered either “Yes”, “No” or “N/A”. The items are assessed individually and are not summarized in a single score.

Summary

The Sacral Sparing Questionnaire is a survey of 5 questions involving various aspects of a patient’s bowel movement routine. Each question is answered as: “yes”, “no”, or “N/A”.

Question 1: Ability to feel perianal tissue

Question 2: Ability to feel water temperature on perianal tissue

Question 3: Ability to feel finger in rectum

Question 4: Ability to feel enema tube in rectum

Question 5: Ability to hold enema tube in rectum for more than 1 minute

Availability

Full questionnaire found in the appendix:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/sc201777>

Assessment Interpretability

Minimal Clinically Important Difference

Not established in SCI

Statistical Error

Not established in SCI

Typical Values

Mean Sensitivity and Specificity values:

Q1: Sensitivity: 98%, Specificity: 92%

Q2: Sensitivity: 88%, Specificity: 95%

Q3: Sensitivity: 98%, Specificity: 94%

Q4: Sensitivity: 96%, Specificity: 100%

Q5 (w/ increased AST):

Sensitivity: 100%, Specificity: 27%

Q5 (w/o increased AST):

Sensitivity: 89%, Specificity: 98%

(Liu et al. 2017, N=102 (83M, 19F), median age (IQR): 46 (32.8-56.3), tetraplegia: n=57, paraplegia: n=45)

Measurement Properties

Validity – **High**

High Consistency Test between Sensation and Q1 of questionnaire:

κ coefficient = 0.91

High Consistency Test between S4-5 Sensation and Q2 of questionnaire:

κ coefficient = 0.79

High Consistency Test between Deep Anal Pressure and Q3 of questionnaire:

κ coefficient = 0.93

High Consistency Test between Deep Anal Pressure and Q4 of questionnaire:

κ coefficient = 0.93

High Consistency Test between Voluntary Anal Compression and Q5 of questionnaire:

κ coefficient = 0.70

(Liu et al. 2017, N=102 (83M, 19F), median age (IQR): 46 (32.8-56.3), tetraplegia: n=57, paraplegia: n=45)

Number of studies reporting validity data: 1

Reliability – **Not Established in SCI**

Not established in SCI

Number of studies reporting reliability data: 0

Responsiveness

Floor/Ceiling Effect:

Not established in SCI

Effect Size:

Not established in SCI

Number of studies reporting responsiveness data:

Not established in SCI